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MINUTES OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
HAMMOND HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.  
Tuesday, July 23, 1968

The Board of Directors of the Hammond Historical Society, Inc. met at 7:30 p.m. in the Calumet Room of the Hammond Public Library, Tuesday, July 23, 1968. The accompanying list of 14 members were present. The president, Mrs. Henry Cleveland, presided. She thanked Warren Reeder and Marjorie Sohl for setting up the display in the NIPSCO window last week for Old-Fashioned Week. It was seen by many passers-by.

The meeting dates for the coming year were set at Oct. 22, Nov. 26, 1968 and Feb. 4, March 25, and May 13, 1969. Suggestions for program possibilities included:

1. Walt Millikan
2. Joe Hirsch
3. Al Kaufmann
4. Pete Smidt
5. Mrs. John Tangerman
6. George Halas - Chicago Bears
7. Frances Meyer - Botanic Gardens
8. Walt McNary - Masonic Lodge
9. Tim Galvin - K. of C. Lodge
10. Auto Dealers, Lyn Agnew, Leo Knoezer, Hank Schmueser, Tom McKinney, Mrs. Jerry O'Niel, and George Szabo.
11. Jim Kristoplas - Greek organizations
12. Ralph Rupp and A.L. Spohn - Schools.

Warren Reeder, John Wilhelm and Walter Bell each agreed to contact certain of these suggested speakers to see if they could speak.

A joint meeting with the other five historical societies in the county was suggested, including East Chicago, Gary, Ross Township, Hobart, and Crown Point. If possible to schedule George Halas as a speaker, it was agreed that this would be an outstanding attraction to have as a joint meeting. Detailed plans were delayed until it could be determined if and when Mr. Halas could come here.

John Wilhelm and Warren Reeder expressed a desire to record oral history on tape and suggested members try to encourage some old-timers to come in to the Calumet Room and talk informally on what they remember of early Hammond in order to put some of these reminiscences down permanently. They hope to set up dates in October and November for such taping.

It was suggested that we consider inviting the Indiana Historical Society to hold one of its workshops up in this area sometime.

In an effort to try to get better attendance at our meetings, the following suggestions were forthcoming:

1. Write to the principal of each high school encouraging him to send a delegation of some interested history group to attend each meeting and encourage the establishment of Junior Historical Societies in the high schools.

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2. Have a representative of the newly formed Little Hoosier Historians of Orchard Drive School attend one of our meetings and report on their activities.
3. Encourage each member to assume the responsibility of inviting people to the meeting.
4. Have a telephone committee to call present members to encourage their attendance and offer rides if needed. Mrs. Cleveland named to this committee: Mrs. Vincent Bower, chairman, Caroline Hohman, Florence Allman, Mary Peters, and Alice Marcus.

John Wilhelm reported he had available a copy of a documentary film on Hammond produced when Frank Martin was running for Mayor and he would get it for the society.

Board members were reminded that we need volunteers to identify and classify materials being collected in the Calumet Room as well as need individual biographies.

Each board member present was encouraged to turn in the names of at least 10 persons to be invited to membership. The society now numbers 124 paid members, a list of which will be provided to the telephone committee.

Respectfully submitted,



Marjorie Sohl, Secretary



ATTENDANCE AT BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
HAMMOND HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.  
Tuesday, July 23, 1968

Warren Reeder  
John Wilhelm  
Florence Cleveland  
Walter Bell  
Ray Williams  
Mary Peters  
Alice Marcus

Charlotte Kasten  
Ann Stevesand  
Dolly Bowers  
Caroline Hohman  
Marjorie Sohl  
Karl Marx  
Florence Allman

MINUTES OF HAMMOND HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.  
Tuesday, October 22, 1968

The Hammond Historical Society, Inc. met on Tuesday, October 22, 1968 in the Community Room of the Hammond Public Library. Mrs. Henry Cleveland, president, called the meeting to order at 7:40 p.m. A roll call sheet was passed indicating an attendance of 57. A motion dispensed with the reading of the minutes of the annual meeting last May since they will be read at the next annual meeting.

Walter Bell, ~~past~~ president, read to the society a handbill he had received announcing the Blue River Valley Fair at Shelbyville, Indiana, Oct. 19-20. It was an example of what other societies are doing.

Since this meeting of the Historical Society opened a week of activities celebrating the first anniversary of the dedication of the new Hammond Public Library, Edward B. Hayward, chief librarian, spoke briefly on the new services which the library has been able to offer during this first year, including the use of this Community Room, 8 mm movie films, talking books service to the blind and physically handicapped, plus some plans for the development of the Calumet Room.

Because there were many attending their first Historical Society meeting, each person was asked to give his name to introduce himself to the group.

John Wilhelm introduced the speaker of the evening, Henry Schmuesser, the owner and operator (f6) one of Hammond's oldest automobile sales and service businesses. Mr. Schmuesser said the business started in 1906 by his father was at first a business of buying cars from a catalog in a knocked-down condition. His father came here 71 years ago and worked as a painter and decorator for Bradford's Paint store. In 1907 he became the Ford dealer and in 1910 the Buick dealer, which franchise the family has held ever since. The company had many long-time and faithful employees. The oldest worked for them for 57 years and they had many mechanics with 35 to 40 years of service. Bill Jarnecke was their oldest salesman with 49 years of service. Many old-time auto dealers were attending the meeting and together they compiled a long list of names of early dealers, including Henry Bieker, Quint Brothers, Fred Lute, Fred Haehnel, Fred Adelsberger, Phil Bardens, Dan Eder, Scotty Burgess, Lynn Agnew, Leo Knoezer, Smith Chevrolet and Ernest Kunert.

Indications of how the automobile business grew like Topsy were the early financing done by the dealer at 2 or 3% carrying charge, discontinued if payments were made on time; auto insurance started in 1915; issuing of car titles in 1919; issuing of auto licenses in 1927; and used car businesses started in the 1930's. Mrs. Max Schmidt's plumbing shop was the early source of dispensing gasoline a gallon at a time. The first large gas station was at Russell and Hohman where NIPSCO now stands. In 1915 gasoline sold for about 8¢ a gallon. People kept gasoline tanks in their back yards and the horse and wagon came around to fill them. Until about 1920, only doctors drove their cars the year around. Most people put them up on blocks for the winter. Hammond had



only a few electric cars. They were never sold in Hammond, only in Chicago. New cars were delivered until 1925 by driving them through. It was a five day trip from Flint to Hammond for a 500 car drive-away. Tires were guaranteed for 3500 miles but they never ran that long. Early cars were produced in a few conservative colors of black, gray and green.

Early cars were sold by looking up people you thought could afford them and then working on them for weeks. Fords once sold for \$390, touring cars for \$945 in 1916. People did not drive a great deal then and the life of a car in the early 1920's was 100,000 miles. Motors were overhauled often, valves ground every 3 or 4000 miles, bodies were repainted by brush 10 or 12 times. Scotty Burgess opened the first shop to line-up and balance wheels in 1927. Roads and railroad crossings were rough and broken springs were common. Blacksmiths were called upon to straighten axels.

Automobile racing is almost as old as automobiles. A very popular race was from Crown Point to Cedar Lake around the S curves, and the track at the Crown Point fairgrounds. Roby track operated from 1910 to 1920 where racers raced for a free tank of gasoline. Dan Eder and Emil Huff were early racers.

Mr. Wilhelm thanked Mr. Schmueser for his reminiscences and invited the members to examine the display of pictures which Mr. Schmuesser had prepared. Mrs. Cleveland announced the next meeting for Tuesday, November 26 at 7:30 p.m. when Joe Hirsch will talk on early merchants of Hammond. The meeting adjourned at 9 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Marjorie Sohl, Secretary

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ATTENDANCE  
HAMMOND HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.  
Tuesday, October 22, 1968

<u>NAME</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>
Warren Reeder	30 Glendale Park, Hammond
Wells H. Walker	41 Waltham Street, Hammond
Robert E. Wilhelm	5933 Park Place, Hammond
A. W. Burgess	7521 Van Buren Avenue, Hammond
B. A. Becker	7210 Maplewood Avenue, Hammond
Daniel E. Eder	6105 Hohman Avenue, Hammond
Phil Bardens	1115 May Street, Hammond
A. F. Adelsperger	1117 May Street, Hammond
Helen Lind	220 Highland Street, Hammond
Leona Kleinschmidt	505 Highland Street, Hammond
Mrs. Harry Wilson	8229 Park View Avenue, Munster
Mrs. Elsie Marx	4725 Henry Avenue, Hammond
Mrs. Norman Allen	7307 Baring Parkway, Hammond
Mr. & Mrs. Fred F. Lehr	5210 Pheasant Run Drive, Indianapolis
Norman Allen	7307 Baring Parkway, Hammond
W. Lynn Agnew	403 South East Street, Crown Point
Carl A. Huebner	35 Indi Illi Park, Hammond
Lucia B. Huebner	35 Indi Illi Park, Hammond
Fred C. Haehnel	
Lester A. Klee	216 Fernwood Street, Hammond
Ove Bruhn	819 Drackert Street, Hammond
Clarence Bruhn	219 - 174th Street, Hammond
Irving Chayken	7648 Hohman Avenue, Munster
David Turner	1411 Elliott Drive, Munster
Gladys Hays	7931 Delmar Avenue, Hammond
Ruth Whitman	3003 - 97th Place Apt. Highland
Arthur M. Pennington	8720 Grace Street, Highland
Ethel Howell	5957 Park Place, Hammond
Caroline Daugherty	7022 Jackson Avenue, Hammond
Angeline Grimberg	15 Waltham Street, Hammond
Nina S. Cravens	423 Florence Street, Hammond
Dollie K. Bower	6916 Hohman Avenue, Hammond
Stella Breyfogle Miner	8254 Northcote Avenue, Munster
Alice Hammond Brooks	8148 Meadow Lane, Munster
Tom McKinney and Emma	333 Clyde Avenue, Calumet City, Ill.
Caroline Hohman	54 Ruth Street, Hammond
Irene Hammond	6928 Madison Avenue
Ethel Wilhelm	6346 Hohman Avenue
Charlotte Kasten	231 Adelaide Street, Munster
Emma Hausknecht	835 Morris Stteet, Hammond
Julia Nelson	5946 Hohman Avenue, Hammond
Alys Hess Marcus	103 Highland Street, Calumet City, Ill.
Walter A. Bell	237 Highland Street, Hammond
Kurt Marx	4725 Henry Avenue, Hammond
Delbert L Purkey	7114 Lyman Avenue, Hammond
Constance E. (Knorr)Purkey	7114 Lyman Avenue, Hammond
Walter G. Scheiber	479 State Street, Hammond
Edward B. Hayward	6808 Madison Avenue, Hammond
Florence Cleveland,	640 - 165th Street
John F. Wilhelm	6346 Hohman Avenue, Hammond
Hank Schmueser	34 Lawndale Street, Hammond
Carl Michel	234 Briar Lane, Munster
James Kish	319 Bluebird Avenue, Crown Point, Ind.
Mary Ruch	516 Waltham Street, Hammond
Marjorie Sohl	5615 Sohl Avenue, Hammond



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MINUTES OF HAMMOND HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.  
Tuesday, November 26, 1968

The regular meeting of the Hammond Historical Society was called to order by the president, Mrs. Henry Cleveland at 7:40 p.m. on Tuesday, November 26, 1968 in the community Room of the Hammond Public Library. Minutes of the October 22, 1968 meeting were read and accepted. Mr. Reeder reported a balance of \$541.71 in the treasury. Forty signed the attendance sheet.

A long-discussed project of the society has been the effort to collect printed programs and materials from churches, clubs and schools of their present day activities, to be sure that these historical records are in our files for future years. A committee was appointed to work on this: Alice Brooks, churches; Hope McKinney, schools; Mr. Gooley, lodges. The Chamber of Commerce had promised to donate its old minutes books, and Mr. Reeder agreed to follow up on this. Attention was called to a doll collection of the orders of nuns depicting the early history of the area Catholic churches. Dr. Martin of the Mt. Mercy Hospital staff was the name given to contact about this.

Mr. John Wilhelm introduced the speaker for the evening, Mr. Joe Hirsch, who talked informally of his personal reminiscences of Hammond. He remembered Hammond from the days of wooden sidewalks, gas lights and overhead revolving fans, and most of the downtown business located on West State Street, including the post office, the Masonic Temple, and their store next to the post office. His uncle came to Hammond in 1892 and his father in 1898. They lived upstairs of the present location of Millikans and daily watched the Black Erie (Monon) and the Red Erie (Erie) come in to town. They talked about grade separation in those days too. He recalled the streetcar line, called the Green Line, which ran south on Hohman to Conkey Street and north on Hohman to Chicago. He remembered the G.H. Hammond fire as not the end of Hammond, but the revival with new industry coming to town. Hammond faced another crisis in 1929 when nine banks and thirteen building and loan companies failed. Businesses operated only with a currency exchange. His father sent him to Chicago to the Merchandise Mart Bank where he borrowed \$5000 and was able to start again. His family moved from State Street to Carroll Street, called Easy Street then, and later to Kenwood, a sand street that was the end of the city. He reviewed his education as having attended Central School, played football for Hammond High, attended University of Michigan and finished law school at the University of Chicago. He practiced law for only a short time in 1917. Nine months after getting out of law school in March, 1917, he was overseas in the army. He gave a quick run-down of the various locations the Hirsch stores have been from the first store on west State Street it moved to Hohman where Jupiter is now located; then to where Cousins are now located, until 1912; then across the street to the old Penny location; they took over another store and for one month operated two stores across the street from each other; they got into women's clothing and Mrs. Kenny joined the business for a long association. When Hohman was widened they had to move or get out of business. They put up a five story building and in the 1929 crash they didn't have enough money to run it. They had three floors of offices with tenants who could not pay rent. They struggled along

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until 1940 and then decided to get out. They opened a shop at 5313 Hohman, next to the Hohman Theatre under the name of Joe Hirsch. In 1961 he went into the present location in the Knoezer Building and has since expanded into Carrie Long's and Ruth's shops. Two years ago he opened a branch in Woodmar with his son Robert, a third generation in the business, now known as Joe Hirsch and Son.

Mr. Hirsch answered questions from the audience and the meeting adjourned at 8:45 with the next meeting announced for Tuesday, Feb. 4, 1969, at 7:30 in the Community Room. Each member was urged to bring a new member.

Respectfully submitted,

*Marjorie Sohl*

Marjorie Sohl, Secretary



ATTENDANCE  
HAMMOND HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.  
Tuesday, November 26, 1968

<u>NAME</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>
Warren Reeder	30 Glendale Park, Hammond
Edward B. Hayward	6708 Madison Avenue, Hammond
Ethel Wilhelm	6346 Hohman Avenue, Hammond
Mrs. Roscoe E. Woods	7531 Maplewood Avenue, Hammond
Hope E. McKinney	7531 Maplewood Avenue, Hammond
Caroline Hohman	54 Ruth Street, Hammond
Leona Kleinschmidt	505 Highland St. Hammond
Katherine LaPlant	232 Carroll Street, Hammond.
Helen Lind	220 Highland Street, Hammond
Margaret Moore	257 Doty Street, Hammond
Nina Cravens	423 Florence Street, Hammond
Elsie Marx	4725 Henry Avenue, Hammond
Ann Stevesand	918 Summer Street, Hammond
Emma Hausknecht	835 Morris Street, Hammond
Charlotte Kasten	231 Adelaide Place, Munster
Mrs. Raymond Kandalec	6642 Kentucky Avenue, Hammond
Mrs. Allan A. Brooks	8148 Meadow Lane, Munster
Mrs. Harold E. Miner	8254 Northcote Avenue, Munster
Irene M. Hammond	6928 Madison Avenue, Hammond
Walter Gooley	7845 Delmar Avenue, Hammond
Ethel Howell	
Mrs. Mary R. Peters	8428 Moraine Avenue, Munster
Mrs. Vincent Bower	6916 Hohman Avenue, Hammond
Georgia Barnett	2434 Martha Street, Hammond
Kurt C. Marx	4725 Henry Avenue, Hammond
Walter A. Bell	237 Highland Street, Hammond
John L. Schreiner	12 Williams Street, Hammond
Tony Schreiner	7131 State Line Avenue, Hammond
Tom McKinney	333 Clyde Avenue, Calumet City, Ill.
Arthur J. Weiss	25 Waltham Street, Hammond
Florence B. Weiss	25 Waltham Street, Hammond
Helen Hirsch	233 Sunnyside, Munster
Mr. & Mrs. R. Kenney	550 Lewis Street, Hammond
Rev. Paul Schaeffer	319 Merrill Street, Hammond
Joe Hirsch	5252 Hohman Avenue, Hammond
John F. Wilhelm	6346 Hohman Avenue, Hammond
Florence E. Cleveland	640 - 165th Street, Hammond
Marjorie Sohl	5615 Sohl Avenue, Hammond
Ricky Hirsch	8124 Northcote Ave, Munster



MINUTES OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
HAMMOND HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.  
Thursday, January 9, 1969

A board of directors meeting of the Hammond Historical Society was held in the Calumet Room of the Hammond Public Library at 3 p.m. Thursday, January 9, 1969. Twelve signed the attendance sheet. President, Mrs. Henry Cleveland, presided.

Marjorie Sohl presented a summary of plans for the February 4th meeting already arranged. Miss Helen Hogue, principal of Orchard Drive School, and other teachers and pupils from the school will review the organization and activities of the Little Hoosier Historians and make a presentation to the society of a taped interview which they made. The movie "At Home in Indiana" will be shown. This movie, with Herb Shriner as narrator, was made by Hooks Drugs for the Indiana Sesquicentennial. It was suggested a letter be sent to the elementary school principals to encourage attendance at the meeting of other schools where chapters might be established.

Edward Hayward reported on the purchase and setting up of a file in the Calumet Room to house the materials from churches and schools and local organizations.

Plans for the March 24, 1969 meeting were discussed. Kurt Marx had made contact with a possible speaker on local Masonic history. A group meeting of the seven historical societies of Lake County was again promoted and felt that such a meeting would have to start with our planning it and inviting the other societies to attend or send some representatives. Floyd Murray was suggested as a possible speaker at that meeting and in the invitation letter, each society would be asked to have a representative to speak briefly about the organization and activities of his society. Warren Reeder agreed to contact Floyd Murray. Marjorie Sohl will write letters to the societies.

Plans for the annual meeting May 13 were discussed. The meeting will be held at the Covenant Presbyterian Church in Hessville with Rev. John Eastwood giving a history of the church. Suggestions for speakers for the evening included:

1. A teacher from Hobart who talks about eary trails in Lake County.
2. Col. Reilly of East Chicago to talk about what he remembers of early Hammond.
3. Verlin Sprague, humorist who talks on Illinois Sesqui-centennial.
4. Mrs. Vanderlan, on the Deep River Project.
5. Clarence Minas.

Mr. John Wilhelm encouraged the setting up of noon taping sessions to get people to talking and putting their stories down on tape. Mrs. Cravens was appointed to set up the first taping session on Friday, Feb. 7. Mr. Wilhelm and Mr. Reeder have a set of questions which might be used by a moderator. Everybody has a few good stories to tell and these are what we want to have them put on tape.



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Josephine Row agreed to contact Henry Schmueser's sister to try to get his set of pictures used at his recent talk to the society for the society's files.

Mr. Wilhelm reported that since the Hammond Times does not keep a file of its pictures, Dick Rosinsky, the Hammond Times photographer is giving Mr. Wilhelm the negatives of pictures taken. He has a big collection of them that need identifying--a good project for someone from the society.

It was suggested that a form be worked up to send out to people to ask them to fill it in to collect their autobiographies in some standard way.

The meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Marjorie Sohl*

Marjorie Sohl, Secretary

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ATTENDANCE  
HAMMOND HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC. BOARD MEETING  
Thursday, January 9, 1969

NAME

ADDRESS

Mrs. G. W. Cravens	423 Florence Street, Hammond
Kurt C. Marx	4725 Henry Avenue, Hammond
Charlotte Kasten	231 Adelaide Place, Munster
Margaret Moore	257 Doty Street, Hammond
Ann Stevesand	918 Summer Street, Hammond
Edward B. Hayward	6708 Madison Avenue, Hammond
W. A. Reeder	30 Glendale Park, Hammond
Lida M. Owen	440 Highland Street, Hammond
Florence Cleveland	640 - 165th Street, Hammond
Josephine K. Row	6712 Hohman Avenue, Hammond
Marjorie Sohl	5615 Sohl Avenue, Hammond
John F. Wilhelm	6346 Hohman Avenue, Hammond



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MINUTES OF THE HAMMOND HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.  
Tuesday, February 4, 1969

The regular meeting of the Hammond Historical Society was called to order by the president, Mrs. Henry Cleveland at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, February 4, 1969 in the Community Room of the Hammond Public Library. Because of the nature of the program, the reading of the minutes and the treasurer's report were dispensed with. A roll call sheet was signed by 62.

Marjorie Sohl introduced Miss Helen Hogue, principal of Orchard Drive School, who told briefly of the steps they went through to organize a chapter of the Little Hoosier Historians at the school two years ago. She introduced Miss Joann Sharkey, Librarian of the Orchard Drive School materials center as the resource person for the club, Mrs. Roselyn Bailey, the sponsor the first year, and Mrs. Noreen Ruberto, the sponsor for the current year.

Five of the sixth grade pupils, Kevin Clyne, Sandy Dietzman, Ed Rudd, Beverly Shoemaker, and Geoff Sheffer described what they did at each of their meetings last year. Their activities included: a pop corn sale to purchase a flag for the school; a visit by the DAR's of Harvey who showed them how to dye yarn, make candles and candy; decoration of a Christmas tree with Indiana emblems, birds, tulip blossoms, leaves and flowers; a talent show featuring skits and folk songs of early Indiana; making of clothes pin dolls and picture frames; viewing of film strips of early Indiana and Corydon; a talk by 82 year old Fred Dedelow on his personal memories of early Indiana; making of Easter baskets filled with eggs died with beet juice, blueberry juice and sassafras tea; a visit to Sandridge Nature Center where they viewed a reconstructed log cabin of early days.

Miss Hogue explained that the first year the group was open to fifth and sixth graders and the membership was 73. This was too many for group study activities so this year they limited it to fourth graders because Indiana history is introduced in the fourth grade. This smaller group narrowed their field of study to history associated with the men for whom the rest stops on the Indiana Toll Road are named. Elizabeth Hess, Joan Sheffer, Paula Randhan, and Kim Schulmeyer summarized their studies of the toll road with short reports of each person for whom a rest stop is named and displayed and explained an enlarged map of the toll road which they had made. They plan to make a clay model of the road to send to Indianapolis later in the year.

Geoff Sheffer presented to the Hammond Historical Society a tape of their March meeting at which Mrs. Audrey Bussert sang folk songs and Mr. Fred Dedelow, an 82 year old Hessville resident, spoke on his recollections of Hessville in the late 1800's. Marjorie Sohl accepted the tape for the society with thanks and introduced the showing of the movie, "At Home in Indiana," which was produced by Hooks Drugs for the Indiana Sesquicentennial and narrated by Herb Shriner.

Mrs. Cleveland announced the next meeting for March 25, 1969 in the Hammond Public Library Community Room. The meeting adjourned at 9 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Marjorie Sohl*

Marjorie Sohl, Secretary

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ATTENDANCE  
HAMMOND HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.  
Tuesday, February 4, 1969

<u>NAME</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>
Bob Hartlerode	3625 - 177th Place, Hammond
Robert Sexton	3834 - 176th Place, Hammond
John Rudd	7605 Montana Avenue, Hammond
Mike Kuschel	3630 - 173rd Street, Hammond
Elizabeth Hess	3634 Nebraska Drive, Hammond
Joan Sheffer	7618 Missouri Avenue, Hammond
Paula Randhan	3600 - 177th Place, Hammond
Kim Schulmeyer	7750 Rhode Island Court, Hammond
Carolann Roundtree	3934 - 177th Place, Hammond
Kim Martin	3718 - 176th Street, Hammond
Helen Hogue	242 Oakwood Street, Hammond
Margaret Gunderson	6609 Jefferson Street, Hammond
Mrs. Roselyn Bailey	
Joann Sharkey	3728 Blvd. Drive, Highland
Michael J. Ruberto	3618 Vine Street, Hammond
Noreen Ruberto	3618 Vine Street, Hammond
Nancy Roundtree	3934 - 177th Place, Hammond
Beth Dye	6514 Forest Avenue, Hammond
Mallory Donnersberger	6333 Forest Avenue, Hammond
Mrs. A. E. Gatto	8330 Parkview, Munster
Florence Cleveland	640 - 165th Street, Hammond
Mrs. Dolores Shoemaker	7622 Missouri Avenue, Hammond
Mrs. Norma Dietzman	7617 Missouri Avenue, Hammond
Mrs. Doris Sheffer	7618 Missouri Avenue, Hammond
Robbie Sheffer	7618 Missouri Avenue, Hammond
Mr. William Sheffer	7618 Missouri Avenue, Hammond
Geoff Sheffer	7618 Missouri Avenue, Hammond
Ruth Whitman	3003 - 97th Place, Highland
Ed Rudd	7605 Montana Avenue, Hammond
Kevin Clyne	7614 Maryland Avenue, Hammond
Kim Shoemaker	7622 Missouri Avenue, Hammond
Sandy Dietzman	7617 Missouri Avenue, Hammond
Beverly Shoemaker	7622 Missouri Avenue, Hammond
Mr. and Mrs. John Wilhelm	
Melvin G. Zachau	6551 Calumet Avenue, Hammond
Helen Zachau	6551 Calumet Avenue, Hammond
Dollie Bower	6916 Hohman Avenue, Hammond
Florence Allman	239 - 169th Street, Hammond
Mary J. Ruch	516 Waltham Street, Hammond
Mrs. James Randhan	3600 - 177th Place, Hammond
Mrs. H. Wilson	8229 Park View, Munster
Mrs. C. P. Welty	3818 Torrence Avenue, Hammond
Mr. and Mrs. Neil McNeil	7412 Jackson Avenue, Hammond
Mrs. George Cravens	423 Florence Street, Hammond
Tom McKinney	333 Clyde Avenue, Calumet City, Ill.
S. Hall	8209 Van Buren Street, Munster
Wayne Miller	1118 Summer Blvd, Hammond
Beth Randhan	3600 - 177th Place, Hammond
Leona Kleinschmidt	505 Highland Street, Hammond
Helen Lind	220 Highland Street, Hammond



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ATTENDANCE  
HAMMOND HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.  
Tuesday, February 4, 1969

NAME

ADDRESS

Emma Hausknecht	835 Morris Street, Hammond
Charlotte Kasten	231 Adelaide Place, Munster
Kermit E. Clyne	7614 Maryland Avenue, Hammond
Alice L. Brooks	8148 Meadow Lane, Munster
Lida M. Owen	440 Highland Street, Hammond
Mrs. Carl J. Nelson	5946 Hohman Avenue, Hammond
Mrs. Athol Marcus	103 Highland Street, Calumet City, Ill.
Mrs. E. L. Hays	7931 Delmar Avenue, Hammond
Rev. Paul Schaeffer	319 Merrill Street, Calumet City, Ill.
Marjorie Sohl	5615 Sohl Avenue, Hammond

**THE TIMES**  
Sunday, March 23, 1969

## Society Gets Club History

**HAMMOND** — A history of the Indiana Federation of Business and Professional Women's Club, from 1918 through 1968, will be presented to the Hammond Historical Society.

Mrs. Florence Cleveland, president of the society, said the presentation will be made Tuesday by Mrs. Karl Huffine, local chapter president.


Speaker at the 7:30 p.m. meeting in the library building, 568 State St., will be Karl Huffine, former Hammond High School and Bishop Noll Institute athletic director.

Sunday, March 23, 1969

## Fans Remin

state capitol as "cliptown, USA." This after paying \$1.25 for watered martinis and \$7.50 for tenderized steak.

**KARL HUFFINE**, the semi-retired former HHS and Noll coach, talks before the Hammond Historical Society in the main Library at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday . . .



**John Whitaker**

No particular subject so he'll "just reminisce." . . . If the party drags, Huff's audience can always ask him about the Indiana basketball finals . . . Karl just saw his 58th in the 59 years!



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MINUTES OF THE HAMMOND HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.  
Tuesday, March 25, 1969

The regular meeting of the Hammond Historical Society was called to order by the president, Mrs. Henry Cleveland, at 7:45 p.m. on Tuesday, March 25, 1969 in the Community Room of the Hammond Public Library. She welcomed representatives from the visiting historical societies of Lake County to be introduced later in the meeting. An attendance sheet was passed indicating 48 present.

Mr. John Wilhelm introduced the speaker for the evening, Karl Huffine, a long-time member of the community and a builder of men here. Mr. Huffine outlined his background as having been born in Kirkland, Indiana, where he went through grade and high school, attended Wabash College where he played football and then got a job as a professional baseball scout. His father had operated a general store in Kirkland. When his parents and brother William moved to Hammond, his father worked at Minas. His brother became ill in the flu epidemic and died. Karl became a baseball and football coach and worked for the Wabash alumni looking for students. His coaching days afforded the opportunity to be associated with such great men at coaching schools as Alonzo Stagg, George Halas, Knute Rockne, Bob Zupke and Pete Vaughn. Mr. Huffine felt that athletics answered a great need in boys in giving them a leader to follow and someone to insist that they live right in a very impressionable period of development. He always promoted greater participation in sports, convinced that it helped boys to become good men. Today when he sees some of the many men that he coached as boys, he is proud to have had a small part in their development. Under his direction, Hammond built an enviable record in all athletics in the state and also traveled to distant states, trips which were wonderful opportunities for growing boys. Three boys from this district have won the coveted Gimble-Trestor award in basketball in the state and many men on the Hammond coaching staff now were at one time coached by him. When he left Hammond High to coach at Bishop Noll, he saw a new opportunity to help build and develop a new school and coaching staff.

Mr. Huffine paid tribute to some of his close friends and associates in the audience: Carl Etter; Tom Doolin with whom he teamed up as an accompanist for a well-known musical pair in the area; Del Anderson, first Hammond Tech coach with whom he teamed up as duet pianist; Skip DeCamp of the sea scout movement who worked with more coaches than any person in the area; and Bill Blake, state official here to verify Huffine's statements.

Mrs. Karl Huffine presented the Hammond Historical Society with a copy of the history of the Indiana Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs which is celebrating its golden anniversary. Mrs. Cleveland noted that Mrs. Cravens and Mrs. Owens in the audience were charter members of the local chapter.

In a roll call of the historical societies from Lake County that had been invited as guests to this meeting, Mrs. Cleveland reported that Mrs. Carl Pleak, president of the Hobart Historical Society was unable



Page 2 - Minutes - March 25, 1969

to come but reported they would be dedicating an historical home there in June and that we would hear from them then.

Mrs. Rose Levan spoke for the East Chicago Historical Society, the baby of societies in Lake County, organized in May, 1966. They are asking all industries, organizations, churches and individuals to turn in to them their historical materials to be housed in the East Chicago Public Library. Mrs. Johnston is cataloging the collection.

Walter Gard, president of the Crown Point Historical Society, represented the oldest and parent society in the county, stemming from the Old Settler's Society and Historical Association. This society has issued several books including those of Timothy Ball and Sam Woods and has another ready to go to press.

No one was present representing the Gary Society, but a letter later from James Howe, president, indicated he was out of town and did not receive the invitation until after the meeting was over.

Mr. Ralph Frazure spoke for the eight attending from the Ross Township Historical Society, claiming to be younger than East Chicago, organized in Merrillville in January, 1967. At the crossroads of the Old Saulk Trail, their main project now is the preservation of an old log cabin that otherwise would have been destroyed. They have an annual 4th of July celebration featuring handicrafts and displays.

Warren Reeder spoke for the Hammond Historical Society, founded in 1960 with about 100 charter members and 138 paid-up members now. The Hammond Society meets four times a year plus an annual meeting at a church to record local church history; it publishes a news letter four to six times a year, and is engaged in an oral history program with taping interviews with older members of the community. Edward Hayward, Librarian, reported on the library's roll as a backup and repository of local history, having cataloged about 200 items for the Calumet Room and solicited historical material from all Hammond churches.

All the societies present were asked to send us a list of their officers and a copy of their publications or newsletters. Mrs. Cleveland reported the recent death on March 12 of Walter Bell, the immediate past president of the Hammond Historical Society and paid tribute to him as a man who truly loved life. She announced the next meeting as the annual meeting to be held at the Covenant Presbyterian Church in Hessville at 6 p.m. on May 20. She named a nominating committee of Mrs. H. H. Wilson, John Wilhelm and Mrs. Dollie Bower. The meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m. and all were invited to stay to enjoy cake and coffee and fellowship with the guests.

Respectfully submitted,

*Marjorie Sohl*

Marjorie Sohl, Secretary



ATTENDANCE  
HAMMOND HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.  
Tuesday, March 25, 1969

NAMEADDRESS

Edward B. Hayward	6708 Madison Avenue, Hammond
Leslie A. DeCamp	33 Waltham Street, Hammond
Ethel Wilhelm	6346 Hohman Avenue, Hammond
Kay Huffine	7423 Woodmar Avenue, Hammond
Elsie Marx	4725 Henry Avenue, Hammond
Kurt Marx	4725 Henry Avenue, Hammond
Warren Reeder	30 Glendale Park, Hammond
Walter F. Gard	R. 7, Box 480, Crown Point - Lake Ct. Soc.
Paul Schaeffer	319 Merrill Street, Calumet City, Ill.
Irene Hammond	6928 Madison Avenue, Hammond
Lida M. Owen	440 Highland Street, Hammond
Wenda Maya	6243 Blaine Avenue, Hammond
James Mead	6243 Blaine Avenue, Hammond
J. Harold Snyder	248 Locust Street, Hammond
Virgene & Lynn Agnew	403 South East Street, Crown Point
Mrs. Alice L. Brooks	8148 Meadow Lane, Munster
Caroline Hohman	54 Ruth Street, Hammond
Bruce L. Woods	R 2, Box 38, Crown Point - Ross Township Soc.
Ralph Frazure	2704 E. 73rd Avenue, Merrillville - "
Ellen Frazure	2704 E. 73rd Avenue, Merrillville - "
Mrs. W. E. Sheets	2002 E. 73rd Avenue, Merrillville - "
Orvena Jenkins	17 Meadow Lane, Merrillville - "
Shirley Maresko	7526 Taft Street, Merrillville - "
Mrs. Rudy Kaiser	232 W. 76th Avenue, Merrillville - "
Mrs. Helen Crandall	6716 Jackson Street, Merrillville - "
W. C. Couch	6749 Hohman Avenue, Hammond
M. W. Straight	6256 Hohman Avenue, Hammond
W. A. Blake	7847 Hohman Avenue, Munster
Rose G. Levan	4901 Drummond Street, East Chicago Hist. Soc.
Dollie K. Bower	6916 Hohman Avenue, Hammond
Joseph F. Bower	7827 Forest Avenue, Munster
Mr. & Mrs. H. H. Wilson	8229 Parkview, Munster
Carl J. Etter	7925 Forest Avenue, Munster
Edmond Hartman	211 Joliet Street, Dyer
Tom Doolin	452 Oak Street, Dyer
Emma Hausknecht	835 Morris Street, Hammond
Ann Stevesand	918 Summer Blvd, Hammond
Charlotte Kasten	231 Adelaide Place, Munster
Gladys Hays	7931 Delmar Avenue, Hammond
Katherine Williams	8801 Schneider Avenue, Apt. 14, Highland
Ruth Whitman	3003 - 97th Place, Apt. 1c, Highland
Florence Cleveland	640 - 165th Street, Hammond
Karl B. Huffine	7423 Woodmar Avenue, Hammond
Mary J. Ruch	516 Waltham Street, Hammond
John F. Wilhelm	6346 Hohman Avenue, Hammond
Marjorie Sohl	5615 Sohl Avenue, Hammond

MINUTES OF THE TENTH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE  
HAMMOND HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.  
TUESDAY, MAY 20, 1969

The tenth annual meeting of the Hammond Historical Society, Inc. was held as a dinner meeting at the Covenant United Presbyterian Church, 6709 Arizona Avenue, Hammond on Tuesday, May 20, 1969. A beef and ham dinner was prepared and served by the women of the church at 6 p.m. Forty-six members attended.

After the meeting was called to order by Mr. John Wilhelm and the invocation was given by Rev. John Eastwood, pastor of the church, dinner was served.

Members and guests were welcomed by the president, Mrs. Florence Cleveland. Minutes of the May 14, 1968 annual meeting were read and accepted. Warren Reeder presented the treasurer's report showing a current balance of \$544.33 and announced that dues for the next year are payable now.

Mrs. Harry Wilson, Chairman of the nominating committee presented the following slate of officers for the 1969-70 year:

President - Miss Marjorie Sohl  
1st Vice President - Mr. Gordon Whitney  
2nd Vice President - Mrs. Athol Marcus  
Secretary - Mr. Edward Hayward  
Treasurer - Mr. Warren Reeder  
Directors, Term expiring May, 1970  
Miss Caroline Hohman  
Mrs. Josephine Row  
Miss Florence Allman  
Mrs. Athol Marcus  
Mrs. George Cravens  
Directors, Term expiring May, 1971  
Mr. Norman Allen  
Mr. Henry Reissig  
Miss Charlotte Kasten  
Mrs. Ann Stevesand  
Mr. Kurt Marx  
Directors, Term expiring May 1972  
Mr. Ray Williams  
Mrs. Lida Owens  
Miss Helen Hogue  
Mrs. Margaret Moore  
Miss Alice Fuzy  
Directors, Term expiring May, 1973  
Mrs. Alice Brooks  
Mr. Harry Wilson  
Mr. E.C. Minas, III  
Miss Georgia Barnett  
Mr. Max Pearson

No nominations were presented from the floor so a motion declared the slate elected by acclamation.



Minutes - May 20, 1969 - Page 2.

Mrs. Cleveland called on Mrs. Harry Wilson to present details for the annual bus tour Sunday, June 29 to the East Gary area. Bus will leave Waltham and Hohman at 1:30 p.m. and return about 5 p.m. Cost, \$1.00 per person. Highlights of the tour will include the site of Lake Station, the dam of Deep River and the home of George Earle.

Mrs. Cleveland read the attached annual report summarizing the year's activities, and expressed her hope that everyone would feel inclined to serve the society in some way when asked.

Mr. Wilhelm introduced the seven living past presidents of the society, all present, and conducted a brief memorial for the two deceased past presidents, Anton Tapper and Walter Bell, and three members recently deceased, Lester Ottenheimer, Henry Schmueser and Anna Emory. A white rose was presented in memory of each followed by a moment of silent prayer. Mr. Wilhelm announced that the Indiana Historical Society would be holding its official Board and Staff meeting in Hammond at Phil Smidt's Restrauant on Saturday noon, July 26. He encouraged all to attend. He presented Rev. John Eastwood, Pastor for 16 years of the Covenant Presbyterian Church which just celebrated its 40th anniversary in March. Rev. Eastwood distributed the accompanying copies of the anniversary edition of "The Shepherd's Staff," the church paper, which contains statistics and a chronology of the Covenant Church. He traced the church's origin to the United Presbyterians, begun in Scotland. This church was organized as the First United Presbyterian Church with 75 charter members in March, 1929. By 1968 had grown to 1205 members. A merger in 1958 with the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America resulted in the name of the Hammond Church changed to Covenant United Presbyterian Church. The first building was built by church members from used materials for a cost of \$10,000, less than the cost of the architect to build the new sanctuary, completed in 1961 at a total cost of \$454,000.

Warren Reeder introduced the speaker for the evening, Mr. H.R. Caniff, Jr., of the Pioneer National Title Insurance Company of Indianapolis who spoke on "The Shape We're In." He traced our name Indiana back to Columbus in 1492 who named the natives here Indians because he thought he was in India. Thus we have become Indiana, the land of the Indians with our capitol Indianapolis, the city of Indians.

Using a basic map with the lakes and rivers outlined in the area north of the Ohio River and east of the Mississippi, Mr. Caniff used a series of transparent overlays to build the story of how the present shape of the state of Indiana gradually formed out of the Old Northwest Territory. The east boundry became a line running due north of the mouth of the Miami River (1st Principle Meridian) to the Canadian border. The west boundry became the Wabash River to the Court House in Vincinnes and then a line due north to the Canadian border. After several moves, the north boundry became an East-West line parallel to and 10 miles north of a line through the tip of

Minutes - May 20, 1969 - Page 3.

Lake Michigan lining up with the northern line of Ohio. The southern boundry, the Ohio River, is the only one we do not really know where it is for sure. In 1898 the Supreme Court ruled the line was the north bank of the Ohio River at the low water mark as it existed Jan. 1, 1792 when Kentucky was admitted to the Union. This was based on the original deed of the land in the Northwest Territory from Virginia as being all the land north and west of the Ohio River --interpreted to mean only the land and none of the water. This interesting story of our developing shape was presented with wit and humor and very adept use of visual aids.

The meeting adjourned at 9 p.m. and Rev. Eastwood conducted a tour through the church facilities for any who wished to see them.

Respectfully submitted,

*Marjorie Sohl*

Marjorie Sohl, Secretary  
Hammond Historical Society, Inc.



ATTENDANCE  
HAMMOND HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.  
Tuesday, May 20, 1969

<u>NAME</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>
H. R. Caniff, Jr.	520 E. 60th St, Indianapolis, Ind. 46220
John H. Eastwood	6832 Arizona Avenue, Hammond
Shirley Eastwood	6832 Arizona Avenue, Hammond
Edward B. Hayward	6708 Madison Avenue, Hammond
Ruth K. Hayward	6708 Madison Avenue, Hammond
Nina S. Cravens	423 Florence Street, Hammond
George H. Nelson	3431 - 41st Street, Highland
Alice G. Fuzy	6555 Forest Avenue, Hammond
Irene M. Hammond	6928 Madison Avenue, Hammond
Caroline Hohman	54 Ruth Street, Hammond
Gladys Hays	7931 Delmar Avenue, Hammond
Ruth Whitman	3003 - 97th Place, Highland
Joyce Ann Sovinski	6331 Madison Avenue, Hammond
Mrs. William A. Fuzy	6555 Forest Avenue, Hammond
Florence Allman	239 - 169th Street, Hammond
Robert E. Wilhelm	5933 Park Place, Hammond
Marie C. Wilhelm	5933 Park Place, Hammond
Mary J. Ruch	516 Waltham Street, Hammond
Fern Arnold	8806 Woodward Avenue, Highland
Dollie K. Bower	6916 South Hohman Avenue, Hammond
Mildred Welty	3818 Torrence Avenue, Hammond
Harry and Jean Wilson	8229 Parkview Avenue, Munster
Kurt Marx	4725 Henry Avenue, Hammond
Elsie Marx	4725 Henry Avenue, Hammond
Walter Breyfogle	1110 Merrillville Road, Crown Point
Stella Breyfogle Miner	8254 Northcote Avenue, Munster
Mrs. Alton A. Brooks (Alice)	8148 Meadow Lane, Munster
Ethel Howell	5957 Park Place, Hammond
Charlotte Kasten	231 Adelaide Place, Munster
Grace Parker	7523 Olcott Avenue, Hammond
Emma Hausknecht	835 Morris Street, Hammond
Ann Stevesand	918 Summer Blvd. Hammond
Alma Rohde	7042 Kennedy Avenue, Hammond
Tom and Erma McKinney	333 Clyde Avenue, Calumet City, Ill.
Mary Ruschlie Peters	8428 Morraine Avenue, Munster
Edith L. Burhans	5937 Park Place, Hammond
Alys Marcus	103 Highland Street, Calumet City, Ill.
Lida M. Owen	440 Highland Street, Hammond
John F. Wilhelm	6346 Hohman Avenue, Hammond
Ethel Wilhelm	6346 Hohman Avenue, Hammond
Warren Reeder	
Florence Cleveland	
Marjorie Sohl	



THE  
HAMMOND  
HISTORICAL SOCIETY

FINANCIAL REPORT 4/30/68 to 4/30/69

BALANCE ON HAND 4/30/68 ..... \$ 622.53

OFFICERS

- Mrs. Mary R. Peters  
PRESIDENT
- Mrs. Harry H. Wilson  
1ST VICE PRES.
- Henry J. Schmueser  
2ND VICE PRES.
- Henry O. Reissig  
3RD VICE PRES.
- Miss Marjorie Sohl  
SECRETARY
- Warren A. Reeder  
TREASURER

INCOME:

Dues .....	\$ 299.40
Banquet .....	99.00
Bus Tour .....	29.87
Total:	\$ 428.27

EXPENSES:

Annual Banquet.....	\$ 107.25
A.A.S.L.H. (Dues) .....	5.00
Bus Tour	
Phil Schmidt's .....	49.40
Chicago Transit Co. ....	35.15
Memorial Wreath .....	15.30
Phone bill .....	10.36
Stationery Supplies .....	77.31
Mimeo Repairs .....	25.00
Postage .....	85.00
Train Wreck Photos .....	49.50
Minutes & Sec'y book .....	8.50
City National Bank of Kansas (book)	8.35
Photo Duplication .....	19.07
Sec'y of State (corp. filing fee)	1.00
Florence Cleveland (reimbursement for meeting of 3/25) .....	10.28
Total:	\$ 506.47

BALANCE ON HAND 4/30/69 ..... \$ 544.33

DIRECTORS

- Miss Georgia Barnett
- Walter A. Bell
- Mrs. Fred W. Carter
- Henry C. Fehlberg
- Mrs. Marie M. Hanlon
- Mrs. Bertha Kleihege
- E. Clarence Minas
- Edward C. Minas III
- Mrs. Lida M. Owen
- Miss Mildred Peehl
- Mrs. Anna B. Perry
- Joseph Piekarczyk
- Delbert L. Purkey
- Elmer Rose
- Mrs. P. Q. Row
- Mrs. Rose K. Scherer
- Miss Frances Taylor
- Ruth B. Whitman
- Mary H. Wilson
- Mrs. Roscoe E. Woods

*Warren A. Reeder Jr.*  
Warren A. Reeder, Jr.  
Treasurer





On June 22, 1968 we combined our annual bus tour with the commemoration of the Hagenbeck-Wallace train wreck which occurred just fifty years ago that date. After a luncheon where we heard tapes and letters from survivors and talks given by people who remembered incidents about the wreck, we went to the site of the wreck at Ivanhoe Ind. to hold a memorial service.

The first of the four regular meetings of the Hammond Historical Society was held on October 22, 1968 in the Community Room of the Main Library. Mr. Henry Schmueser, now deceased, then owner and operator of one of Hammond's oldest auto sales and service businesses gave a most interesting talk on the history of the automobile industry in Hammond. He had mounted an excellent picture collection of old automobiles.

On February 4th 1969 the Little Hoosier Historians, a Junior Historical society from Orchard Drive Elementary school presented a program in which they described a typical meeting and told of their years activities. They gave us a tape of one of their meetings. We hope these "Little Hoosier Historians" will become big Hammond Historical Society Historians.

The Lake County Historical Societies were invited to be our guests to the March 25th meeting at which Karl Huffine reminisced of his coaching days in Hammond. In spite of the bad weather we had a good attendance and there were representatives from <sup>the</sup> East Chicago society, Lake county society at Crown Point and the Ross Township society. Everyone seemed to enjoy the social hour. We hope to repeat such meetings.

We appreciate the opportunity to hold our annual dinner meeting on this May 20th at the Covenant United Presbyterian Church and to learn about its history through the pastor Rev. John Eastwood.

One of our aims this year has been to <sup>have</sup> larger attendance at our meetings. Oral interviews with older members of the community were taped. We hope to do more of that next year. Files have been set up in the Calumet Room for material collected by a committee organized for this purpose. We should all make a concentrated effort this next year to increase our membership so that our organization will continue to work "toward the collecting and preservation of valued information for posterity".

*Florence Cleveland*



# Memo

TECHNICAL VOCATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL

H. H. Wilson

Director

## Officers 1969-70

Pres. - Miss Marjorie Sohl  
 1st. Vice Pres - Mr. Gordon Whitney 7207 Belmont  
 2nd. " " - Mrs. Athol Marcus  
 Sec. - Mr. Edward Hayward  
 Treas. - Mr. Warren Reeder

## Directors

Expiring 1970  
 Miss Caroline Goldman  
 Mrs. Josephine Row  
 Miss Florence Allman  
 Mrs. Athol Marcus  
 Mrs. George Cravens

Expiring 1971  
 Mr. Norman Allen  
 Mr. Henry Reissig

Miss Charlotte Kasten  
Mrs. Ann Stevesand  
Mr. Kurt Marx

---

Expining 1972

Mr. Ray Williams  
Mrs. Lida Owens  
Miss Helen Hogue  
Mrs. Margaret Moore  
Miss Alice Fuzzy.

---

Expining 1973

Mrs. Alice Brooks  
Mr. Harry Wilson  
Mr. E. C. Minas III  
Miss Georgia Barnett  
Mr. May Pearson



HAMMOND HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
9th ANNUAL MEETING  
May 20, 1969, 6:00 p.m.

Covenant United Presbyterian Church  
Hammond, Indiana

WELCOME .... Mrs. Florence Cleveland, Pres.

INVOCATION . The Rev. John Eastwood, Pastor

DINNER ..... Ladies of the church

BUSINESS MEETING AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Minutes of May 14, 1968

Miss Marjorie Sohl, Secretary

Treasurer's Annual Report

Mr. Warren A. Reeder, Jr., Treasurer

Report of Nominating Committee

Mrs. Harry Wilson, Chairman

PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL REPORT

Mrs. Florence Cleveland, President

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND MEMORIALS

Mr. John F. Wilhelm

HISTORY OF THE COVENANT UNITED PRESBYTERIAN

CHURCH - Rev. John Eastwood, Pastor

SPEAKER - "THE SHAPE WE'RE IN"

Mr. H. R. Caniff, Jr., Asst. Mgr.

Indiana Agency Operations

Pioneer National Title Company

Indianapolis, Indiana

ADJOURNMENT

OFFICERS 1968 - 1969

President ..... Mrs. Florence Cleveland

1st Vice President. Mrs. Norman Allen

2nd Vice President. Mrs. P. Q. Row

Secretary ..... Miss Marjorie Sohl

Treasurer ..... Mr. Warren A. Reeder, Jr.

DIRECTORS

Norman Allen

Edward C. Minas, III

Miss Florence Allman

Mrs. Margaret Moore

Miss Georgia Barnett

Mrs. Lida Owen

Mrs. George Cravens

Henry Reissig

Miss Caroline Hohman

Mrs. P. Q. Row

Miss Charlotte Kasten

Mrs. Ann Stevesand

Mrs. Athol Marcus

Ray Williams

Kurt Marx

Harry Wilson

"When we were young, we

did not ask questions;

and when we were old,

there was no one to

answer them."





Covenant United Presbyterian Church

# THE SHEPHERD'S STAFF

"THY ROD AND THY STAFF THEY COMFORT ME"

Volume 16

March 27, 1969

Number 5

## 40th ANNIVERSARY EDITION

### FORTIETH ANNIVERSARY PLANS

All plans have been completed for the Anniversary Celebration. A picture display in the narthex of the church has increased interest. Only a few tickets remain for the banquet on Thursday evening, March 27, at 6:00 o'clock. Pastor John Wm. Oliver is to bring the principal message of the evening. Others to be with us are the William Greens; Pastor Maurice McCrackin; the McClenahan sons, Paul and Scott; Tom and Mary Cairns and many others.

On Sabbath, March 30, there is to be a 4:30 p.m. Vesper program, (A time to look back). Slides are to be shown and readings brought. A buffet supper will be served. At 7:00 P.M., at the hour of worship, our senior choir will present an Easter Cantata CHRISTUS by Mendelssohn. The sermon of the evening will be preached by the Reverend Larry Shaver, pastor of the Prince of Peace Lutheran Church of Merrillville.

### THOSE CALLED TO THE MINISTRY FROM COVENANT

Tom & Mary Cairns - Missionaries at Oak Hills Fellowship, Bemidji, Minnesota.

William & June Green - Pastor of North Branch U. P. Church, Monaca, Pennsylvania.

Bill was ordained June 1962.

David & Janet Wright - Assistant pastor of First U.P. Church, Sturgis, Michigan.

David was ordained May 29, 1966.

Kenneth & Carole Bergner - Pastor of the U. P. Church, Walkerton, Indiana.

Kenneth was ordained August 25, 1968.

Bruce Edward Baker - A third year student at Trinity Seminary, Deerfield, Ill.

Larry Schmoekel - Senior in College and approved by the session as a student for the ministry.

Roberta Smith Mesko - The wife of a missionary planning to serve in Peru, South America.

Jill Wright Erber - The wife of a seminary student of the Missouri Synod Lutheran Church.



Rev. John W. McClenahan, Rev. Maurice McCrackin  
Rev. John Eastwood, Rev. R. W. Frost

### MINISTERS AND TERMS OF SERVICE

#### STATED SUPPLIES

James A. Greer May 1, 1928 - June 30, 1930  
Edgar Puntenny Smith July 1, 1930 - June 30, 1932

#### PASTORS

John W. McClenahan - July 1, 1932 - June 13, 1937  
Maurice F. McCrackin - Aug. 1, 1937 - Aug. 2, 1942  
R. W. Frost - October 18, 1942 - Sept. 28, 1947  
George R. Krupp - July 11, 1948 - April 19, 1953  
John H. Eastwood - September 13, 1953

### ASSISTANTS WHO WERE MADE ASSOCIATES

John R. Booker - April 5, 1959 - May 31, 1961.  
John William Oliver - Nov. 22, 1964 - Oct. 23, 1966.

### STUDENT ASSISTANTS

John Jamieson - April 1957 - Sept. 1957.  
Robert Radcliffe - Dec. 1961 - May 30, 1964.  
David Wright - June to Sept. 1964.  
Edward Baker - Nov. 1966 to May 30, 1968.  
Eugene McLean - Nov. 1966 to Feb. 28, 1969.

There was an old pastor named Eastwood,  
Who would not quit his work when he could.  
His muscles became soft,  
Church suppers he ate oft,  
And now he can not work, when he should!

JHE



# GROWTH THROUGH EVANGELISM

1929	75	1953	427
1933	87	1957	1016
1937	143	1961	1191
1941	184	1965	1189
1945	178	1968	1205
1949	255		

## SOME GRAND TOTALS

People who have United	2367
Infant Baptisms	808
Adult Baptisms	476
Weddings	377

## WHERE THE EMPHASIS HAS BEEN

1. In Gospel preaching with an invitation from time to time.
2. In visitation evangelism with men going out in teams.
3. In giving instruction to both youth and adults before they have been received into the church.
4. In a vigorous youth program: Bible Centered Sabbath School, Sabbath evening youth groups and youth clubs during the week.
5. In maintaining a Sabbath evening preaching service.
6. In encouraging prayer groups.
7. In providing chairs for all ages.
8. In promoting mission through the support of individual missionaries and mission groups that are known to be truly evangelical.
9. In encouraging Christian fellowship and love among our family of believers.
10. In serving our community and the world through the consecrated lives of our members.

## GROWTH IN STEWARDSHIP

	<u>MISSIONS</u>	<u>LOCAL</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
1929	\$	\$ 786.00	\$ 786.00
1933		915.00	915.00
1937		2,626.00	2,626.00
1941	105.00	3,561.00	3,666.00
1945	410.00	9,083.00	9,493.00
1949	995.00	18,872.00	19,867.00
1953	4,093.00	22,331.00	26,424.00
1957	16,427.00	57,352.00	73,779.00
1961	19,347.00	83,577.00	102,924.00
1965	24,722.00	81,682.00	106,404.00
1968	33,588.00	80,117.00	113,705.00

## TOTALS IN STEWARDSHIP OVER 40 YEARS

Total Receipts	\$ 1,568,650.00
Total to Missions	318,488.00
Total to Local	\$ 1,250,162.00
Per Cent to Missions	20.3%

The most received in one year:  
\$118,137.00 (1967)



Harry Richards, Robert McInnes, Rev. John McClenahan, & Rev. Jamison.

(We wish to thank Dorothy Ryband for re-producing the pictures appearing in this issue of the Staff and other pictures used for our 40th Anniversary.

## ROLL OF ELDERS

<u>Name</u>	<u>Date of Ordination</u>	
*Harry J. Richards	6/10/34	Charles Sheridan 5/31/59
Clarence B. Estes	6/10/34	Tedd Smith 12/27/59
*Jesse Hull	6/10/34	James Amick 12/27/59
Robert McInnes	6/10/34	Donald Davison 12/27/59
*Andrew Faris	5/22/38	Kenneth Laurion 12/27/59
Calvin Woods	5/22/38	Harry Shock, Sr. 12/27/59
Walter Rice	5/22/38	Charles Kuykendall*1/1/61
*John Randolph	5/22/38	James Bush, Sr. 1/1/61
*David Smith	7/12/42	Horace McAnally 1/1/61
Herbert Durand	7/12/42	Milton Gilmore 1/1/61
*Dan J. Brown	8/1/48	Thomas Olson 12/31/61
Allen Cornwell	8/1/48	Lisle Campbell 12/31/61
Thomas Cairns	5/22/49	Eugene Misner, Sr. 12/30/62
Robert Kreiler	5/22/49	Glenn Ostrom 12/30/62
*James Brody	5/22/49	John Anderson 12/30/62
Otis Gholson	5/22/50	Ken Brickley ** 12/29/63
Roy Baker	6/3/51	William Moore 12/29/63
Harry Hartman**	6/3/51	Kenneth Scott 12/29/63
Carter Martin	5/25/52	John Spencer 12/29/63
Theodore Miller	5/25/52	Clayton Anderson 1/3/65
Vaniel Blair	8/30/53	Walter Long 1/3/65
John Melton	8/30/53	Herbert Rader 1/3/65
John Montgomery	2/7/54	Charles Tabor 1/3/65
*Earl McCarty **	2/7/54	Richard Hills **7/2/65
Edwin Skilling	1/2/55	Sidney Erwin 1/2/66
Elmer Olson	1/2/55	John Swenson 1/2/66
Wilfred Stewart	4/6/49	Stanley Vance 1/1/67
John Bowlby	1/1/56	Glenn Dawson, Jr. 1/1/67
John Brooke	7/1/56	James Severa, Sr. 1/1/67
Richard Campbell	12/30/56	James Fagan 12/31/61
Louis Brownlee	12/29/57	Ronald Junkens 12/31/67
Alfred Marley	12/29/57	John Neiswinger 12/31/67
Jacob Peterson, Jr.	12/29/57	Melvin Wiggins 12/31/67
J. Ralston Miller**	12/29/57	Edward Baker 7/9/67
Robert Wilkins	12/28/58	Donald Scott 12/22/68
Vernon Sherer	12/28/58	Thomas Wisz 12/22/68
*John Toren	12/28/58	James Vitkus 12/22/68

\* Deceased \*\* Installed, having been formerly ordained.



# THROUGH THE YEARS

April 26, 1928 - Rev. and Mrs. J. A. Greer began a work in our community. Hessville at that time had few sidewalks, many sand dunes and swampy areas.

May 6, 1928 - The first preaching service was held in Anderson Hall, at the corner of Martha and Kennedy. The group continued to meet here for a number of years. Often they had to clear the place on Sabbath morning of articles left by those who used it as a dance hall the night before.

May 13, 1928 - The Sabbath school was organized with 31 present. Mrs. Greer was elected Supt. and Miss Helen Brant Secy.-Treas.

Feb. 10, 1929 - Sabbath School attendance 106, offering \$4.38.

March 27, 1929 - The congregation was organized with 75 Charter Members. The record states: "In establishing this church in this Community Rev. William McIntyre, pastor of the Indiana Harbor Church and the following men: J.R. Brant, F.H. Taylor, M.A. Carpenter, James Gammie and Mrs. Edward Glegg and Mrs. M.A. Carpenter were untiring in their efforts to get this congregation working as soon as possible."

The Charter Members still active with us are: Mr. & Mrs. Robert McInnes, Mrs. Fred Musser, Mr. & Mrs. James Gammie, Miss Alice Benner, Mr. & Mrs. L.N. Cook, Mrs. Dorothy Thompson, Mrs. Minnie McTaggart, Mrs. Sarah Amick.

April 3, 1929 - The first trustees were elected.

Sept. 10, 1933 - The corner stone to the present Chapel was laid. For more than a year the congregation held worship services in the basement as they waited for the sanctuary to be completed. Those were depression days and money was very scarce. Much of the work of construction was donated. Second hand bricks were cleaned and used. The floor for the sanctuary came from hot dog stands at the Chicago World's Fair. The light fixtures and the leather covered doors, still in use, came from a drug pavilion. The rug for the center aisle was donated by Pullman Standard. A letter asking for a building permit written by Pastor John McClenahan, which we have before use, states that the total outlay was to amount to \$8,000.00 to \$10,000.00 dollars. The pulpit was made by Andrew Faris and the pews were secured from a Baptist Congregation whose building had burned. A few charred marks may still be seen on these pews.

Oct. 1935 - The new building, now called the Chapel was dedicated. It was a time of great rejoicing. Prayer meetings had been held on the sand dune at the corner of 167th and Arizona Ave. The building represented much sacrifice and fellowship in Christian service.

Dec. 12, 1937 - From the bulletin of this date; Sermon: "Preparing the Way of the Lord" Pastor McCrackin. Monday: The Men's Dartball Team will play Hyde Park Methodist. Next Sabbath evening a Christmas Pageant will be presented under the direction of Mrs. Thelma Hedrick.

May 16, 1940 - A 12th Anniversary celebration was held. This was 12 years from the first preaching service. Three goals set on that occasion:

1. To become entirely self-supporting.
2. To have 300 active members.
3. To have 350 regular attendants at Sabbath School.

Dec. 1, 1947 - Mr. & Mrs. John Melton were employed as our choir director and organist.

June 8, 1949 - At a congregational meeting called for the purpose of making plans for more space for a growing congregation the following committee was elected:

Co-chairmen: Howard Crowe and Virgil Six.

Dan Brown	Robert Kreiler
Fred Browdy	Harry Richards
John Brooke	George Smith
John Bowlby	Calvin Woods
Harry Hartman	Mrs. James Beckett, Sec.
Mrs. Fred Musser, Treas.	

At that time our congregation had reached the midway point in its present history. Estimates on the structure desired ran from 80 to 90 thousand dollars. Once more the congregation determined to do much of the work. Scores of men turned out night after night. Cash in hand amounted to \$9,852.00. Under the able and consecrated leadership of Tom Cairns the congregation pledged \$20,050.00 to be paid within ten months. Because of the tremendous amount of donated labor and the untiring efforts of the Co-chairmen in hunting bargains the final cost without furnishings came to \$48,742.91. It was necessary to borrow only \$16,000.00.

May 20, 1951 - Ground Breaking Service for the Annex.

July 15, 1951 - Corner Stone Laying.

June 21, 1952 - The building was opened for use.

Oct. 19, 1952 - The Annex was dedicated. The program booklet prepared for the occasion has a full account of this united effort written by Virgil Six. Virgil writes just as he talks. It is delightful reading.

Sept. 1953 - A new parsonage was purchased at 2642-169th St.

Sept. 1953 - The Youth Club program for children in grades 4 through 8 was begun. The average attendance that fall on Tues. evenings was 60.

Oct. 1953 - Instruction Classes for adults were started. Since this date seven weeks of instruction have been offered three times each year.

Oct. 25, 1953 - The first number of The Shepherd's Staff was sent out.



- Oct. 1953 - Mrs. Fern Stinson was employed as our custodian.
- Dec. 24, 1953 - We made our Christmas Eve program a Worship service. It has since become one of the best attended and most inspiring services of the year.
- March 27, 1954 - We celebrated our 25th Anniversary with a banquet and program. It was another home coming. On the following Lord's Day 72 adults united with us in Christian faith. It was a great day. We sang 4 hymns as the new members signed the roll. Dr. Albert E. Kelly was with us and preached at the evening service. The report that Dr. Kelly wrote of that day is one of your pastor's most treasured mementoes. It appeared in The Shepherd's Staff of May 4, 1954.
- Of the 72 who united with us five have been ordained as elders and one is a United Presbyterian minister.
- April 18, 1954 - On Easter Sabbath we began holding two morning worship services, 8:00 and 11:00 o'clock. This has been continued without exception since.
- Sept. 8, 1954 - A Supper Club for high school age youth was started. It met on Thursday evenings 6:00 to 8:00 for a number of years.
- Oct. 7-11, 1954 - Don McClure was with us for a week of meetings. Remember how it rained.
- Oct. 15-16, 1954 - We entertained the State Baraca-Philathea Convention.
- January 1955 - Mrs. William Highland began work as church Secretary and home visitor. Mrs. Francis Buxton continued to do the mimeographing in her home until July. Mrs. Buxton prepared the church bulletin and sent out the weekly reminder without compensation during the pastorate of Rev. Krupp.
- June 1955 - About this time we began having roses to honor the birth of our babies. One morning the pastor called attention to the fact that we were proud to have four roses and then added that another child was born after the bulletin was made so we would have the fifth later. At the door Chet McCann said, "I sure enjoyed the four roses and I'm coming back when you have that fifth next week."
- July 3, 1955 - A mortgage burning ceremony was held at the morning services. Our last payments had been made on the annex and the parsonage at 2645-169th St. The old parsonage at 6821 California Ave. had been sold for \$5,107.48 and the new one purchased for \$14,000.00 in Sept. of 1953.
- Sept. 24, 1955 - We held our first fall retreat for the officers of the congregation. Remember that lovely autumn day at Cedar Lake. Dr. J. J. Vellenga was our speaker.
- Feb. 1956 - A family that escaped from East Germany, Mr. and Mrs. Gehard Guenther, Hans and Eberhard, was sponsored by the Couples' Class. For several months they lived in the John Bowlby home. The whole congregation got behind the project.
- May, 1956 - After Al Cornwell, Ted Miller and Bernard Miller came back from a meeting of United Presbyterian Men at Spring Mill a men's prayer group began meeting at 5:30 A.M. Friday mornings. Some of our men have continued to meet through the years at this hour.
- May 16, 1956 - Pastor George Krupp passed away due to injuries received in an auto accident at Venetia, Pa.
- May, 1956 - Out of an enrollment of 76 there were 44 who never missed Youth Club during the spring term.
- June 13, 1956 - At a congregational meeting plans were accepted to improve the present Chapel. At the same meeting the congregation authorized the appointment of a new building committee of 21. The committee was instructed to proceed immediately:
1. To secure more land adjacent to our present property.
  2. To work with our architect in preparing plans for a new sanctuary.
  3. To secure three-year pledges in the fall for the building fund.
- The Committee Members:
- |                     |                  |
|---------------------|------------------|
| John Bowlby         | George Smith     |
| John Brooke         | Arthur Osmon     |
| Walter Rice         | Orville Constant |
| Wilfred Stewart     | Ebert Riegle     |
| William Highland    | Mrs. R. Kreiler  |
| Fred Musser         | Vernon Lee       |
| R. Stanley Vance    | Kenneth Scott    |
| Bernard Miller      | Eugene Misner    |
| Mrs. Lisle Campbell | Carl Anderson    |
| Mrs. James Beckett  | Howard Crowe     |
| Mrs. John Toren     |                  |
- July 1956 - Men and boys put Thoroseal on the walls of the chapel and chapel basement.
- Summer of 1956 - The heating system was improved; and the chapel remodeled and redecorated at a total cost of \$22,000.00. The bill was paid within a year.
- Feb. 25, 1957 - The Men's Brotherhood held a pancake and sausage supper. Charles Baxley was then president. We remember it as a huge success. The Brotherhood was organized May 27, 1954. Al Cornwell was the first president.
- Oct. 7-9, 1957 - Illinois Synod of the former U. P. Church met at Covenant.
- Oct. 1957 - The Kum-Join-Us- Klass, taught by Mrs. Ralston Miller, was organized.
- Nov. 1957 - Glenn Cunningham spoke at our evening service.
- Jan. 1958 - The present parsonage was purchased for \$22,000.00. The one on 169th St. was sold for \$16,000.00.
- Feb. 1958 - By this date 4 properties had been purchased adjacent to the Chapel at a total cost of \$41,035.00.
- April, 1958 - A Men's Bible Class was organized which began meeting in the Prahlow house.



May 23-25, 1958 - The United Presbyterian Church of North America held a Centennial Celebration in Pittsburgh and than United with the Presbyterian Church U.S.A.

Summer 1958 - A Men's Chorus was organized and directed by Allen Cornwell.

Fall 1958 - About this time we began holding healing services for the sick.

Jan. 14, 1959 - After considerable study, discussion, a little heat and one postponement we changed our name from "First" to "Covenant."

Jan. 1959 - A Women's Chorus was organized and directed by Mrs. Calvin Woods and Mrs. James Severa.

Mar. 28, 1959 - Harry Richards was honored as Elder Emeritus. He had served continuously for nearly 25 years, April 25, 1934 to Jan. 1, 1959.

Aug. 31 - Sept. 4, 1959 - Thirty-six from Covenant attended our Youth Conference at Camp Willobay, Wisc.

Nov. 1959 - Victory was sweet. We went over our goal of \$156,000.00 in three-year pledges to our Building Fund and subscribed a total of \$156,405.60. The canvassers pledged half of the total. We can still recall the elation we felt when the pledges made by the canvassers were totaled at a dinner meeting.

Dec. 28, 1959 - We held our first dinner for college students at Christmas.

April 3, 1960 - Mrs. Calvin Woods was honored as teacher of the Loyal Philathea Class for 25 years.

May 29, 1960 - Ground Breaking Ceremony for the new sanctuary. It was the most beautiful Sabbath morning in your pastor's memory.

Sept. 11, 1960 - Corner Stone Laying.

Sept. 18, 1960 - Dr. John McClenahan was taken to be with the Lord.

Nov. 13, 1960 - We began to assist the congregation in Schererville. Pastor Booker did the preaching there. It is now flourishing United Presbyterian congregation with a fine new church building.

Jan. 1, 1961 - Mrs. Chet McCann began work as church teller and has continued to the present date.

Spring of 1961 - Bob Radcliffe organized our Chapel Choir of high school youth.

July 16, 1961 - William Novath began his duties as our new custodian.

Sept. 17, 1961 - Our New Sanctuary was dedicated with a overflow crowd of 900. In all of the planning and labor there had been wonderful cooperation and the sight of the completed project brought joy to all. The total cost of land, construction and furnishings was \$454,500.00. At the time of dedication the indebtedness was \$310,000.00. Over \$100,000.00 was loaned to the church by members and

friends of the congregation. Since then the cost of the folding doors and some cost of improvements in the chapel, a total of nearly \$9,000.00, have been paid by this fund. As of March 1969 our indebtedness is approximately \$160,000.00.

Spring of 1962 - The petunias were first planted at the corners.

May 30, 1962 - We ran buses to the Billy Graham Crusade in Chicago. More than 60 of our people went forward.

June 1962 - The Hour of Power Prayer Group was organized under the leadership of Mrs. Dewey Dishaw. This group has continued to meet on Tuesday mornings each week.

July, 1962 - The trustees partitioned the basement of the annex.

Sept. 13, 1963 - The congregation honored the Eastwoods with a lovely program, a bundle of letters, a large album of mementos and a gift of \$744.00, on the occasion of their 10th anniversary at Covenant. There were cups that overflowed that evening.

March 8-13, 1964 - Dr. John Gerstner meetings.

Oct., 1964 - The Women's Association opened a church library in the room formerly used as the pastor's study.

Fall, 1964 - New Hymn Books were purchased.

Jan. 1965 - Attendance at our evening service began to increase due to Pastor Oliver's able preaching.

Jan., 1965 - The folding doors were removed and a wall was installed between the chapel and the first floor of the annex.

Feb., 1965 - Twenty-five men turned out to paint the chapel, the entrance and the beginner room.

Summer of 1965 - The blacktop was put on the parking lot at a cost of \$2,894.00.

Oct. 10, 1965 - We held a "Covenant Church Home Coming" with a dinner at the church, an afternoon program, the evening meal together and special worship service. Remember the atmosphere of years gone by. Dr. Charles Ferguson Ball was the speaker.

May 21, 1966 - Senior Highs held an Hawaiian Luau.

July, 1966 - Pioneer Girls was organized at Covenant.

Sept., 1966 - Faith United Class for young couples was organized.

Sept., 1966 - A class for young single adults was organized. Dr. and Mrs. Jacob Peterson have taught the class from the start.

Dec., 1966 - A Pictorial Directory of the congregation was published.

Dec., 1966 - Under the direction of the Erwins our church was beautifully decorated for Christmas. This has become a tradition.



FORTY YEARS

Dec., 1966 - The folding doors in the fellow-ship hall were installed at a cost of \$5,817.85.

Jan. 27, 1967 - The great snow storm. Nearly all who came walked to church. We believe there were 8 at the early service and less than 100 at 11:00.

Feb., 1967 - Mrs. John Neiswinger began assist-  
ing with secretarial work in the church office.

April 1967 - We put our shoulder to the wheel  
for the 50 Million Fund and pledged \$32,695.00.  
Richard Hills was chairman.

July 23, 1967 -We began using a church bus.

Nov. 8, 1967 - The Shepherd's Staff was first  
printed rather than mimeographed.

Fall of 1967 - The chapel basement was complete-  
ly remodeled at a cost of \$8,611.00. It was  
a real transformation.

Dec. 24, 1967 - Perhaps the most inspiring  
moments in any of our many worship services  
was when our combined choirs sang the  
Hallelujah Chorus as every one in a packed  
sanctuary held a lighted candle. How our  
hearts were lifted.

May 12, 1968 - The congregation honored pastor  
and Mrs. Eastwood on their 25th wedding anniv-  
ersary and the pastor's birthday with expressions  
of love that completely overwhelmed them. Who  
can ever forget the moment the curtain was  
drawn and revealed the table of gleaming  
silver.

March 27, 1969 - It has been a blessed 40 years.  
How we wish we could have mentioned the names  
of hundreds more: teachers, officers, youth  
leaders, prayer warriors, those taken to  
glory and scores who have been with us and  
moved away. With the writer of Hebrews we  
exclaim, "What shall I more say? for the time  
would fail me.....Wherefore seeing we are  
compassed about by so great a cloud of wit-  
nesses, let us lay aside every sin that doth  
so easily beset us, and let us run with  
patience the race that is set before us,  
looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of  
our faith."

There was a dear pastor named Eastwood,  
Who was doing far more than he should.  
Now he lies on his bed,  
With poems in his head,  
As the flock turns his illness to good.  
Cuthberta Stroup

The number forty plays an important place in  
Scripture. We will not attempt to propound any  
theory regarding its meaning, but do here sight  
some of the occasions it is mentioned.

For forty days the rain came down,  
And only Noah did not drown.

For forty nights it still did pour,  
After God had shut the door.  
Full forty years for Isaac passed,  
But Becky married him at last.

Down in Egypt for forty years,  
Moses had its kings as peers.

For forty more he herded sheep,  
His wife and children for to keep.

For forty days the law was given,  
On a mountain close to heaven.

For forty days the spies did search,  
And then left Moses in the lurch.

For forty years their sinfulness,  
Kept Israel in the wilderness.

After Gideon put out his fleece,  
For forty years the Lord had peace.

Judge for forty years was Eli,  
When fat and old he came to die.

For forty days Goliath shone,  
Till David slew him with a stone.

Old Saul reigned for forty years,  
But ended all upon his spears.

David was given just the same,  
And left much glory to his name.

Solomon too had forty years,  
And taxed the people to their ears.

Joash who made the money chest,  
Had forty years before his rest.

For forty days Elijah fled,  
Nourished on an Angel's bread.

Paul received forty stripes save one,  
For the good that he had done.

For forty days our Lord did fast,  
And was sinless to the last.

For forty days He did appear,  
To shatter doubt and conquer fear.

Forty years He has blessed us here,  
And filled our hearts with love sincere.

Until He come we shall proclaim,  
The precious Gospel in His name.

And if He come, we shall arise,  
And join the saints now in the skies.

Both here and there we shall rejoice,  
And sing His praise with gladsome voice.

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Covenant United Presbyterian Church

# THE SHEPHERD'S STAFF

"THY ROD AND THY STAFF THEY COMFORT ME"

Volume 16

April 9, 1969

Number 6

## GOALS FOR THE NEXT TEN YEARS

At the 40th anniversary banquet Pastor Eastwood, speaking over the intercom that was installed between the church and the parsonage, outlined the following goals for the next ten years:

### 1. A Matter of Faith:

That we remain steadfast in our witness to our risen Lord as He is presented in the Word of God; no matter what it may cost us in comfort or the loss of this world's goods; no matter what apostate leaders may say of us, or the world may do to us. We declare this our first goal fully aware that within the next ten years we may face great hostility to the conservative, evangelical witness to Jesus Christ.

### 2. Evangelism:

That we have a spiritually active and alive membership of 1800. This will constitute an increase of 50% in ten years. It will require a great acceleration in our rate of growth. From 1953 to 1959 we nearly tripled our membership. However, in the past ten years we have shown a net gain of only 100 members. It is time that we begin to grow again.

### 3. Stewardship:

That our giving to all mission efforts be increased to \$50,000.00 a year by our 50th anniversary and that all debts be liquidated. This will amount to an increase of 50%. Last year our giving to missions amounted to \$33,588.00. With our building debt fully paid we will be able to channel more into missions.

### 4. Service:

That Covenant Church have 12 of her sons ordained to the Gospel ministry by the time of her 50th anniversary and as many of her daughters serving as pastors' wives or in church vocations. Those who are now in their second year of high school could be ready for ordination by March of 1979. We now have four men ordained and two others who will be in seminary in Sept. Two others in college have indicated they will study for the ministry. God willing we can attain our goal.



REV. VAN DYNE & FAMILY

We will hold a reception for our new assistant pastor, the Rev. Charles A. Van Dyne and his family, on Sabbath evening, April 20th, following the evening service. Pastor Van Dyne is to preach at the three services that day. Let us all be present to give the Van Dynes a warm welcome to Covenant Church. Mrs. Van Dyne's name is Claire. They are the parents of two sons: David Charles 2-5-63 and Robert Eric 5-21-65. Pastor Van Dyne was graduated from Bob Jones University in 1956 and from Pittsburgh-Xenia Seminary in 1959 and has served the Center U.P. Church of Midway, Pa. since. During his ministry at Center Church a new sanctuary and Christian education facility were erected and furnished.

He was born June 26th, 1933 and grew up in East Liverpool, Ohio in the United Presbyterian Church under the ministry of the Rev. William Lawrence. The Van Dynes have purchased a home at 1302 North Oakwood Ave., Griffith.

### 5. Fellowship:

That we will maintain the friendly, warm, family spirit that we have always enjoyed. This does not come without effort. People must work together, pray together, rejoice together, weep together and all in the name of our dear Saviour, if they are to enjoy the fellowship that is in Christ Jesus.

May God give us the grace, and the faith and the energy to attain these five goals over the ten years that lie ahead.



Dear Members and Friends of Covenant:

Once more we wish to express our gratitude to all of you for your prayers, messages and gifts during these weeks of my illness. Your kindness not only to me, but also to my family has been very much appreciated. The way many in the congregation accepted responsibility and carried the work forward was very encouraging and reassuring to us.

The heart attack occurred on Friday morning, Feb. 21. I was four weeks in the hospital and as I write this I have been home for two weeks. On Easter Sabbath I will take part in the worship services. However, the doctor will not allow me to begin preaching until May 11.

This has been the longest rest I have ever had. If the patient is able to fulfil the doctor's prescription he will get back to what he weighed when he was playing football his senior year in high school. This is going to take some doing. However, as this is written he is happy to announce, he has passed the half-way mark.

We are grateful to God for His mercies; His answer to our prayers and for your loving concern. God has taught me some lessons, but I do not believe He intends for me to be an invalid. We trust that He is going to give full recovery and your pastor will be stronger, wiser and more sensitive to God's leading than ever before.

May God continue to bless us as we face a bright future together.

Your pastor,

John H. Eastwood

#### NEW MEMBERS RECEIVED

The following were received into membership during Holy Week:

By Confession of Faith and Baptism:

Miss Donna Tussey, 3823 - 173rd Street.

By Confession of Faith:

Mrs. Delores Chapman, 6831 Arkansas Ave.

Terry Crowe, 347 N. Rensselaer, Griffith.

James H. Jackowski, 7245 Schneider, Ave.

Frank Thorpe, 7207 Birch Ave.

William Thorpe, 7207 Birch Ave.

William O. Wyse, 6522 Alexander Ave.

By Certificate:

Lester Barnsback, 3539 Greenbriar Lane.

Sarah M. Miller, 6845 Osborn Ave.

Mrs. Elden (Alberta) Ruhs, 7111 Osborn Ave.

James W. Stovall, 7318 Grand Ave.,

Mrs. William Wyse, 6522 Alexander, Ave.

These new members received instruction during the past seven weeks. When Pastor Eastwood was hospitalized the class was taught by Elder Glenn Dawson, Jr.

In May another class will open for adults.

#### WELL DONE

We wish to thank our 40th Anniversary Committee for a job beautifully done. It was obvious that they had a great time of fellowship among themselves as they planned and worked and that spirit seemed to permeate the whole congregation. Mrs. Daniels and her helpers and Mrs. Isom and her staff certainly provided an abundance of delicious food. Mrs. Sidney Erwin's waiters not only showed fine training in serving tables, but sang beautifully under the leadership of Mr. & Mrs. James McNabney. Mrs. Baxley and her helpers provided lovely table decorations. Getting enough china together was no small task but Mrs. Zacek was equal to it. The picture display arranged by Mrs. Louis Szekely, Mrs. Stella Vanstone, Miss Alice Benner and others has been of great interest and is worthy of remaining for a number of weeks. Mrs. Melton gave us good publicity and Ted Miller and his committee did a great job at selling tickets for the banquet. Mrs. Musser and others did everything possible to get charter members, former pastors and others out to the anniversary. During the days before the celebration our chairman, John Bowlby, gave almost full time to the plans. The intercom between the church and parsonage was his idea and it proved a blessing, especially to the pastor. The clean-up crew under the able leadership of Don Scott and Stan Vance put things in order in record time. We cannot name all who took part, but we do wish to thank all. We will not soon forget the happy spirit that prevailed at both the banquet and the Sabbath evening buffet supper.

#### BIRTHS

Daniel James, born January 9, to James and Lynn Shabi.

Michelle Renne, born January 27, to Donald and Carolyn MacCartney.

Ronald John, born Feb. 11, to Donald and Sally Martin.

Brian Michael, born Feb. 24, to Ronald and Pamela Wiggins.

Derek Leigh, born Feb. 21, to Douglas and Lynn McCrea.

Arlene Kay, born Feb. 14, to Donald and Bonnie Roberts.

Kelly Jo, born January 31, to Donald and Barbara (Hallum) Johnston.

Jamie Alexandra born March 22, to Robert and Ruth Hill.

Jacquetta Marie, born March 28, to Dennis and Bonnie Chancellor.

#### INSTRUCTION FOR YOUTH

In the absence of the pastor Mrs. James Vitkus has been teaching the Instruction Class for youth. Fifty-two children are enrolled. We hope all will remain faithful to the end of the course. These children will be received into the church during the first weeks of June.



FINANCIAL REPORT

	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Receipts</u>
Current Expense . . .	\$13,000.00	\$11,738.69
Building Fund . . .	9,000.00	6,743.21
Missions . . .	5,500.00	5,059.81
Special Missions:		
Wurmbrand . . .		679.09
Easter . . .		77.50
Total	\$27,500.00	\$24,298.30

FIFTY MILLION FUND

Received in 1969. . . .	\$ 1,561.25
Total Received . . . .	16,155.20

Our total pledge to the 50 Million Fund is \$32,695.00. At the end of April two years of giving to this fund will have passed and we will have received little more than one half of our pledge. We wish to encourage all those who pledged to do their best.

A study of our giving this first quarter, as reported above, indicates we must do a little better than we have been doing if we attain our goals.

SALARY FOR THE ASSISTANT PASTOR

Our budget for the current year provided \$10,000.00 for an assistant pastor. The agreement with Pastor Van Dyne comes to a little more than this for a full year. However, since he is to arrive after three and one-half months of the year have passed we will be within our budget. The increase is in part due to Presbyterian increasing the minimum salary to \$7,000.00 for city churches. The amount agreed upon with Pastor Van Dyne is as follows:

Salary. . . . .	\$7,000.00
Rent Allowance. . . . .	1,800.00
Automobile Allowance . . . . .	590.00
Pension . . . . .	1,144.00
Hospital Insurance. . . . .	140.00
	<u>\$10,674.00</u>

In our employment of Pastor Van Dyne we have followed the constitution of our United Presbyterian Church, which empowers the session to employ an Assistant Pastor. When an Assistant Pastor becomes an Associate Pastor or when one is asked to come as an Associate it is necessary for the congregation to hear the candidate and to issue him a call. In the past we have taken this step with an Assistant Pastor, but then had to repeat this action when we made the Assistant Pastor an Associate Pastor. On this occasion the session acted to follow the steps prescribed by our book of government.

WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

April 16, 12:45 - The noon lunch will be a salad bar. A speaker has been invited from the Cancer Cupboard in East Chicago to present the program.

May 21, 6:30 P.M. - Mother and Daughter Banquet at Covenant. Tickets are two dollars each, regardless of age. Mrs. Tom Wisz is to present the program.

BUILDING FUND  
FIRST QUARTER 1969

Balance Jan. 1, 1969. . . .	\$1,346.79
Receipts- Pledges . . . .	\$6,743.21
Receipts - Notes issued . . .	1,000.00
Total Receipts	<u>7,743.21</u>
Disbursements	
Interest paid on Mortgage \$	521.04
Redeem notes #31,38,60 & 84.	4800.00
Interest on notes. . . .	<u>1608.75</u>
	<u>\$6,929.79</u>
Bal. April 1, 1969	\$2,160.21
Long Term Debt	
Notes	\$123,690.00
Mortgage	<u>34,736.19</u>
	<u>\$158,426.19</u>

\*Does not include note to be prepared for loan to Trustees for repairs to Building.(\$3,000.00)

INFANT BAPTISM

Parents may present their children for baptism at any of the three services on April 13. Pastor Eastwood will hold a conference with the parents on Saturday, April 12, at 4:30 P.M. Names should be given to the church office before Friday morning, April 11.

THANK YOU

The following wish to express their gratitude to members and friends of the congregation who remembered them with prayer and cards during their recent illness: Mrs. Leroy Miller, Mrs. Walter Mueller, Mrs. John Bowlby, and Mrs. Wilfred Hamacher, Mrs. Chet McCann.

MEMORIALS

We are happy to see the new table and bench in the narthex of the church. The deacon's bench is a memorial to Mrs. Edsill Thomas and the table is a memorial to Mrs. Mary Pollard. These pieces of furniture were ordered months ago, but were slow in coming because we asked for them unfinished. James Fagan with some help from Tom Wisz stained, shellaced and varnished them. We think he did an expert job. They beautifully match the woodwork of the church. It was in order that this might be done that they were ordered unfinished.

We will dedicate these memorials on May 25.

SPECIAL FUND

Early in March special donations were received through members of the Sabbath school for improvements at the parsonage. The total received was \$105.00. This money was used to purchase the following: paint for the dining room and kitchen, paper for one wall of the kitchen, drapes for the dining room, curtains, a light fixture and a sheet of formica for the kitchen. We wish to thank all who made contributions.

YOUTH CLUB

Since handwork was begun in Youth Club interest has picked up. We are grateful to those who have accepted the responsibility of this work. Also we thank Mrs. Ray Wright who has taken the pastor's place in teaching the Bible lesson.



O Covenant! O Covenant!

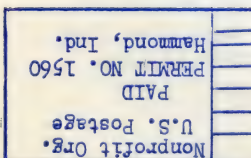
For forty years You've blessed us here, O Christ our precious Lord!  
You've filled our hearts with love sincere, Bound all in sweet accord!  
O Covenant! O Covenant! Give thanks to God above,  
Who takes away our guilt and sin, And fills our hearts with love!  
We thank Thee Thou didst not despise, Those days when things were small,  
But by Thy grace bestowed a prize, On every faithful call!  
O Covenant! O Covenant! The Lord lift up thy soul!  
The God who heard our fathers' prayers, Is still in full control!  
We thank Thee for the change faith makes; We've known it in our lives!  
The soul awakes and sin forsakes, We've seen it with our eyes!  
O Covenant! O Covenant! Doubt not the power of God!  
Bear all thy witness in His strength, Or feel His chastening rod!  
O Bless the teaching of Thy Word, Through years that shall appear!  
And may salvation be conferred, On all our children dear!  
O Covenant! O Covenant! The world is lost in sin!  
Send forth thy sons and daughters now, And bring it unto Him!  
O Jesus we do trust Thee now, And will through years to come!  
Do make our church a fruitful bough, In all of Christendom!  
O Covenant! O Covenant! Thy God hath chosen thee!  
Arise in answer to His call, His covenant people be!  
We know not what the years may bring, Nor take beyond recall!  
But in Thy hands is everything, Thou watchest over all!  
O Covenant! O Covenant! God keep thee through the years!  
Ever abounding in His work, Until our Lord appears!

The hymn above was written by Pastor Eastwood for our 40th Anniversary celebration and was sung to the tune of "America the Beautiful"

Lord We Give Thee Thanks  
by John Bowlby

Thank you dear Lord for giving us,  
These forty years and more;  
For all the folks who did so much,  
Now on the other shore.  
We are thankful for the charter members,  
Who are with us here tonite;  
Who started with so very little,  
To bear Thy precious lite.  
Thy Word is written on our hearts,  
Because they did Thy will.  
We pray that we shall do no less,  
Our promises to fill.  
You have led us from the wilderness,  
Of the former sinful strife.  
Now we are Thy people who enjoy,  
The rich and fuller life.

We thank you for our present pastor,  
Whose health you now restore.  
He has done so very much for us,  
And is planning even more.  
We pray we'll always love Thee Lord,  
As our little children do;  
With pure hearts and enlightened minds,  
And bring others unto you.  
So when another forty years have passed,  
And our lives from earth have gone;  
There will be others standing in our place,  
Thy work to carry on.  
(Mr. Bowlby read his poem at our 40th anniversary banquet.)



"Nonprofit Org."  
Address Correction Requested  
Covenant U. P. Church  
6709 Arizona Ave.  
Hammond, Ind. 46323



**... FIRST  
BE RECONCILED  
TO YOUR BROTHER,  
AND THEN COME  
AND OFFER  
YOUR GIFT.**

**MATTHEW 5:24**



COVENANT UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
Hammond, Indiana

8:00 and 11:00 A.M. May 18, 1969

The Organ Prelude: "Agincourt Hymn" Dunstable  
The Choral Introit  
\* Processional: "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling" 351  
\* The Call to Worship and Invocation Pastor Van Dyne  
\* The Apostles' Creed  
\* The Gloria Patri  
The Responsive Reading: "Call to Consecration" 607  
8:00 A.M. Don Scott 11:00 A.M. Glenn Dawson, Jr.  
\* The Hymn: "Breathe on Me, Breath of God" 95  
The Scripture Reading: I Peter 2  
The Pastoral Prayer  
The Choral Response  
The Pastor's Moments  
The Offertory: "Thoughts" Franck  
\* The Hymn: "We Give Thee But Thine Own" 451  
\* The Prayer of Dedication  
Duet: "Grateful, O Lord, Am I!" Roma  
Sandra Smith and Elsie Saksa  
The Anthem: "Be Thou Not Still" Foltz  
The Sermon: "A Call for Refinement" Pastor Eastwood  
\* The Hymn: "Dear Lord and Father of Mankind" 388  
\* The Benediction  
\* The Choral Response: "Bless Us" Lorenz  
The Organ Postlude: "Temple March" Lyon  
\* Congregation Standing

This Evening

3:00 - Instruction Class for Adults & High School Youth.  
5:30 - Linda Powers and Ruth Anne Amick will lead the Cadets.  
5:30 - John Ostrom and William Scott will lead the Crusaders.

5:30 - The Senior Highs will meet. Bible Baseball.

Attendance Last Week

Morning Worship	582	Senior Highs	19	Youth Club	45
Evening Worship	81	Crusaders	9	Prayer Groups	23
Sabbath School	414	Jet Cadets	13	P. Girls	16

Members are asked to return their communion cards.

Thursday, 9:30 A.M. - Vacation Bible School teachers and officers will meet at the church.

THIS EVENING

A special bulletin has been prepared for the service at 7:00 P.M. today. The Youth Club children will take part in the service. Parents are asked to review with their children the parts assigned to them. Pastor Van Dyne will preach the sermon. Children must be present to receive their awards.

THE CHURCH CALENDAR

Monday

6:00 - Pioneer Girls.  
7:30 - Covenant will conduct the service at the Union Gospel Mission. Elder Kenneth Laurion is to give the message and Mrs. John Pelhank is to play.

Tuesday

11:30 - The Home Department will meet at the church.  
3:45 - Youth Club children will leave the church for a picnic in the Forest Preserve south of Lansing. One car will remain behind until 4:00 P.M. Since we have many parents attending we will take the children to their homes by 7:30 P.M.  
6:00 - The Hammond Historical Society will hold a dinner meeting at Covenant Church in the chapel basement.

Wednesday

6:30 - The Women's Association will sponsor a Mother and Daughter Banquet in the fellowship hall.  
7:00 to 7:30 - Men of the church are asked to do Visitation Evangelism.

Thursday

7:30 - Instruction Class for adults and high school youth.  
7:30 - Senior Choir Rehearsal.

Saturday

10:30 and 3:00 - Instruction Classes for Youth.

Dr. and Mrs. Robert Tebbe and their children are to be with us next Sabbath. This is one of the missionary families we help to support.

Covenant members are reminded that all of our mission money is designated. We help support missionaries we know and trust with our mission dollars. We have done this for a number of years and are convinced that this has been a wise policy.



# Where Can I Start?

**T**HE WORLD is full of trouble. There are gaps; wherever I look there are gaps. A veritable chasm separates rich nations from poor nations. A yawning gap maroons one race from another. Suspicion, misunderstanding and indifference keep isolating man from man. What can one man do? Where can I start?

We have said, "Start with God." First be reconciled to God, then you may go on to be reconciled to your brother. And this must be right. How can we hold any real hope for man loving his brother if God disappears or is ignored?

The stark fact is, however, that if we make no effort to be reconciled to our brother we are ignoring God. Jesus put us to the test. He said, ". . . first be reconciled to your brother, and then come . . ." If we are to take seriously our reconciliation to God, we must work hard at being reconciled to our brother. It is as simple and as difficult as that!

You and I may have little chance to reconcile the East to the West. The statesmanship of many nations will be needed to bring these two worlds together.

In our own little worlds, however, we may set the climate for the larger reconciliations. We do have a place to start.

First, God! Through our Lord, Jesus Christ, we may have our sins forgiven and have our estrangement from God removed. We can be back home with Him. But, at home with Him means that we have gotten involved up to our necks in this business of reconciliation. We are charged by God to remove all barriers that separate us from our brothers. The question is not primarily who is right and who is wrong. I need not bother with that. I must try to find my brother in love, no matter who may be right. God did this for me and with me. I must do this for and with my brother!



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THE TIMES

Friday, June 20, 1969

# Historical Society Hears Church History

HAMMOND — The history of Covenant United Presbyterian Church—from its beginning in a hall and over a span of some 40 years was given during the an-

nual meeting of the Hammond Historical Society.

Members of the society first ate a dinner, and then heard Dr. John Eastwood talk about the founding and the progress of the

church which this year is marking its 40th anniversary.

Dr Eastwood came to Covenant church, 6709 Arizona Ave., Sept. 13, 1953.

He told the historical group

how Covenant church in the Hessville area was organized March 27 1929 as the First United Presbyterian Church, a congregation of the United Presbyterian Church of North America.

A merger in 1958 with the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America resulted in the name of the Hammond church being changed to Covenant United Presbyterian Church.

Some 75 charter members met for a first worship service in Anderson Hall, Martha Street and Kennedy Avenue.

CORNERSTONE for the first church buildings was laid Sept. 10, 1933. The building was dedicated in October of 1935.

An annex was added in 1951 to provide room for a growing Sabbath School.

An expanding congregation made necessary the making of plans for a new church building. Current membership is 1,205.

GROUND FOR a new church was broken May 29, 1960. The new sanctuary was dedicated in September, 1961.

First pastor was the Rev James A. Greer, who served from the beginning of planning in 1928 to 1930.

Others and the years they served were.

The Rev Edgar Puntteney Smith, 1930-32; John W. McClenahan, 1932-37; Maurice F. McCrackin, 1937-42, Ralph W. Frost, 1942-47 and George R. Krupp, 1948-53.

THE TIMES

Monday, June 2, 1969

# Historians Name Chief

HAMMOND — Majorie Sohl has ben named to succeed Mrs. Florence Cleveland as president of the Hammond Historical Society for the 1969-70 season.

Miss Sohl is a librarian with the Hammond Library System. Both she and Mrs. Cleveland are descendants of early Hammond settlers.

Other officers chosen are Gordon Whitney, vice president; Edward Hayward, secretary and Warren Reeder, treasurer

New directors are Alice Brooks, Harry Wilson, E. C. Minas III, Georgia Barnett and Max Pearson.

H. R. Caniff Jr of the Pioneer

Title Co. of Indianapolis spoke at the society's annual meeting.

He gave members a visual display of how Indiana came into existence.

A history of the 40-year background of the Covenant United Presbyterian Church was given by its pastor, the Rev. John Eastwood.

The society's annual bus tour on Juune 29 will spotlight the East Gary area first to be settled in Lake County.





Mr. H.R. Caniff  
 Florence Cleveland  
 Mr. & Mrs. John Wilhelm  
 Warren Reeder



Mr. H. R. Caniff  
 Marjorie Sohl  
 Florence Cleveland  
 John Wilhelm  
 Dollie Bowers  
 Alys Marcus  
 Warren Reeder



Rev. John Eastwood  
 H. R. Caniff  
 Marjorie Sohl



Mr. H.R. Caniff with map  
 presenting "The Shape We're In."



President's picture: L. to R.  
 John Wilhelm  
 Edward Hayward  
 Jean Wilson  
 George Nelson  
 Mary Peters  
 Warren Reeder  
 Dollie Bowers  
 Marjorie Sohl  
 Florence Cleveland



ANNUAL BUS TOUR  
HAMMOND HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.  
Sunday, June 29, 1969

The Hammond Historical Society's annual tour was taken on Sunday, June 29, 1969. A bus carrying 24 members left Waltham and Hohman at 1:30 p.m. to drive to Ripley and Central Streets in East Gary where we were met by Mr. Alonzo Daugherty, water department superintendent, and Mr. Norris Combs, head of the Dunes Historical Society to conduct us on the tour of East Gary and surrounding area to point out sites of importance in early history of Lake County.

East Gary was called Lake Station until 1909, named after Gary which was established in 1906. As Lake Station, it was the eastern most station on the Michigan Central Railroad out of Chicago and people came there from Hobart and Crown Point to take the train. Mr. Daugherty pointed out the original farm sites of early settlers, the Schneider's, Riches, and Papke's; the old Indian burial ground, now a sand hill; the site of the original depot; the site of the Audubon Inn, where Abe Lincoln once stayed; the first schoolhouse, still standing; the original campgrounds of the Potawatomi Indians; the site of the original county court house at Liverpool Road and New Jersey St; the George Earle home, the grandson of the founder of Hobart.

Respectfully submitted,

*Marjorie Sohl*

Marjorie Sohl, Secretary  
Hammond Historical Society, Inc.

ATTENDANCE

Mr. & Mrs. Harry Wilson  
Mr. & Mrs. H. A. Swing  
Mr. & Mrs. Harry Van Valkenberg  
Mr. & Mrs. Karl Marx  
Mr. & Mrs. R. T. Williams  
Marjorie Sohl  
Mary Ruch  
Ann Lauer  
Charlotte Kasten  
Ruth Whitman

Lida Owen  
Mrs. Henry Hoyles  
Alice Brooks  
Dorothy Bemisderfer  
Sidona Bell  
Gladys Hays  
Anna Stevesand  
Alma Rohde  
Mrs. Harold Miner



MINUTES OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
HAMMOND HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.  
TUESDAY, JULY 8, 1969

The officers and directors of the Hammond Historical Society met for a planning meeting on Tuesday, July 8, 1969 at 7:30 p.m. at the Hammond Public Library. Thirteen attended.

John Wilhelm announced the meeting of the Indiana Historical Society to be held at Phil Smidt's at 12 noon on Saturday, July 26. There will be a business meeting and two speakers, Warren Reeder and a man from Taylor University speaking on local Indiana. Names of those present who planned to attend were taken. It was decided to send a postal card announcement to the entire membership as soon as details were received in the Indiana Historical Bulletin announcement.

Dates for the regular meetings next year were set at Sept. 16, 1969; Nov. 18, 1969; Jan. 20, 1970; March 17, 1970; and the annual meeting on May 19, 1970.

A call for program suggestions for the meetings resulted in the following ideas:

1. Sept. 16th meeting devoted to the commemoration of the centennial of the first shipment of dressed beef in refrigerated railway cars. Efforts will be made to borrow for display purposes the model of the early refrigerator car owned by Mr. I.A. Grodzins, president of the Hammond-Columbia Refrigerated Warehouses, Inc. in Chicago; to contact survivors of the Hammond family in Chicago and Detroit; to honor the descendants of the Hammond Family still in Hammond; to run an ad in the paper to try to contact anyone still living who worked at the Hammond Packing Plant.
2. Karl Marx suggested last year a history of the Masonic Lodge. He has contacted someone there who is working on it but since it requires research in records that are with state records, he is not ready to present it for awhile. George Pokos, Clynn Ellison and Clarence Cole were suggested as local persons who might be knowledgeable on the lodge.
3. Frances Meyers to present a history of Hammond Botanical Gardens was suggested. Mr. Wilhelm agreed to contact him.
4. Gordon Whitney, a local fireman, indicated an interest in preparing a presentation of history of the Hammond Fire Dept. He was assigned the meeting of Jan. 20, 1970.
5. Alys Marcus was suggested as a logical person to prepare and present a history of the Hammond Women's Club. A complete set of their yearbooks is available in the library and from several of their members.
6. A history of the Sanger Bund Fedelia, an early German singing organization which is still meeting regularly was suggested as an organization with early Hammond roots. Charlotte Kasten knows the president and offered to contact them.
7. All Saints Church and the new priest, Father Mengeling, were suggested as possibilities for the location and historian for the next annual meeting. Dollie Bowers will ask him.



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8. Alice Brooks suggested a program which was agreed might be a good possibility for the annual meeting--two women from the San Ridge Nature Center who dress in frontier costumes and present a program on frontier plants, herbs, teas, and vegetables. Alice Brooks could contact them. She also suggested a man and his wife whom she had heard who sing old time hymns as a hobby.
9. A history of theatres and entertainment areas was suggested. Warren Reeder agreed to contact Carl Kleihege about this.
10. Leo Knoezer was suggested as a possibility to talk about his father's potato digging equipment. Mr. Wilhelm will speak to him.
11. A history of the Beatty Machine Company, started in 1917 by Bill Beatty was suggested. His son Crawford is a possibility. Charlotte Kasten could contact him.
12. A history of the Lincoln-Jefferson Law School if any old graduates could be found.
13. Frank Seligher who played football at the old packing house site to talk on the early football.

Suggestions concerning continuing projects were to continue to line up taped interviews with anyone who has a story to tell. Two such are scheduled for the near future. It was suggested that we consider returning to a tour of Hammond's historical spots for our annual tour to attempt to reach a new group of people who were not on the original tour. No joint meetings with other societies were planned. We decided to let some other society initiate the next such meeting.

Following a suggestion from Ruth Whitman that we distribute to the members a list of our membership by name and address, Mr. Reeder agreed that it could be included in the next regular bulletin.

Mr. Whitney suggested we consider the possibility of presenting to the new Wallace School a picture of Gen. Lew Wallace to be hung in the new school when completed to help the children to appreciate some of the heritage of their own school. This could also be a project in the other schools named for individuals and without suitable portraits.

The meeting adjourned at 9 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Marjorie Sohl*

Marjorie Sohl  
Acting Secretary



ATTENDANCE  
BOARD MEETING  
Tuesday, July 8, 1969

NAMEADDRESS

Wamen Reeder	30 Glendale Park
Gordon Whitman	6806 Grand
W. + Mrs. S. H. Witsen	8229 Parkview Munster
John F. Wilhelm	6346 Hohman Ave Hammond
Helen Hogue	242 Oakwood - "
Lida M. Owen	440 Highland Street
Alys Marcus	103 1/2 Highland St, Cal. City,
Charlotte Kartin	231 Adelaide Rd. Munster
Ann Stevens	98 Summer Blvd Hammond
Dollie K. Boyer	6916 S. Hohman
Alice L. Drakes	8148 Meadow Lane Munster
Marjorie Sahl	5615 Sahl Ave, Hammond



MINUTES OF THE HAMMOND HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.  
Tuesday, September 16, 1969

The regular meeting of the Hammond Historical Society was called to order by the president, Miss Marjorie Sohl, at 7:30 p.m. in the Community Room of the Hammond Public Library. Miss Sohl reported on the activities of the society during the summer months and the tentative plans made by the Board of Directors for the winter and spring. Future meetings will be held on November 18, January 20, March 17, and the annual meeting at All Saints Church on May 19.

Miss Sohl said that tonight's program was planned to commemorate the centennial of two related but separate events germinal to the founding of Hammond. These were the first successful shipment of refrigerated beef from the western stockyards to eastern markets and the establishment of the G.H. Hammond Packing Company both in the year 1869.

In preparation for the program, attempts were made to contact and have present direct descendants of G.H. Hammond. ~~Five~~ grand-children are living in Detroit but were unable to be present. A telegram was read from one of the grandchildren, Mrs. James Phelan (Ellen S.) expressing interest in the society and the program. Four members of the Hammond family were present, Irene Hammond, Dorothy Hammond, <sup>Elmer Sohl</sup> Florence Cleveland and Alice <sup>Brink + Vergene Annew</sup> Reuth. By means of a newspaper inquiry for any former employees of the G.H. Hammond Company still living in this area, Mr. G.H. Jacobsen of 954 Sibley Street, Hammond, was contacted and invited to take part in tonight's meeting. As part of the centennial observance, a model of the refrigerated railway car used by the G.H. Hammond Company owned by Mr. Grodzins, President of the Hammond Columbian Refrigerated Warehouses, Inc. of Chicago, was on display in the Hammond Main Public Library.

Mr. Jacobsen spoke to the society, stating that he had been brought by his parents to the United States from Sweden at the age of ten months and that his father had worked for Mr. Gostlin in Dundee, New York before he had him come to Hammond to work. Mr. Jacobsen started work in 1896 at the G.H. Hammond Company as a messenger boy. He became record keeper in the refrigerated car department and was employed there for six years before joining Swift and Company in Chicago. At the time he worked in the refrigerated car department, J.P. Lyman was manager and K.H. Bell was assistant manager. Two trains of refrigerated cars were dispatched each week to Hoboken, N. J. About 2800 people were employed in the plant and about 125 in the office.

Following Mr. Jacobsen's reminiscences, Miss Sohl introduced Mr. Warren Reeder to give a paper on G.H. Hammond and his times. Mr. Reeder first described some of the notable national events of the year 1869 and then quoted from entries in the diary of Caroline Hohman relating the arrival of Mr. Hammond and Mr. Towle to purchase land for his enterprise and the establishment of "Hammond, Plumber, Ives and Company." He then used excerpts from a speech delivered



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to the Newcomers Society by Rudolf Clemmon on the history of the meat packing industry which included a biography of G.H. Hammond. Letters written by G.H. Hammond also provided information. Finally, Mr. Reeder showed how interesting historical information could be gleaned from court records by presenting a lively summary of a case on file in the Federal Court Archives in Chicago. The suit was filed by Marcus Towle against G.H. Hammond in 1896 concerning his share of the G.H. Hammond Company at the time of its incorporation. The appeal was written by William Howard Taft, then Judge of the Circuit Court of the Sixth District.

After a question and discussion period, the meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Edward B. Hayward". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "E" and "H".

Edward B. Hayward, Secretary



## Attendance

Hammond Historical Society Meeting, Tuesday  
Sept. 16, 1969. Hammond Public Library

Name

Address

Edward B Hayward	6708 Madison Ave. Hammond
Mrs Dorothy Benderfer	257 Vine Hammond (guest)
Mrs H. E. Miner	8254 Northcott, Munster.
Mrs Alice L Brooks	8148 Meadow Lane Munster
Mrs Jean Wilson	8229 Park View Ave, Munster
Irene M. Hammond	6928 Madison Av Hammond
Florence E Cleveland	640-165th St Hammond
Charlotte Kasten	231 Adelaide Pl. Munster
Ann & Xeverand	918 Summer Blvd Ind.
Emma Haugkrecht	835 Morris St. Hammond Ind.
Walter Reider	30 Glendale Park " "
Tom & Keith McKinney	333 Clyde Ave Calumet City Ill.
Gordon Whitely	6806 Grand. Hammond Ind
Vernon Jacobson	9741 Delaware place Highland Ind.
G. H. Jacobson	954 Sibley St. Hammond -
Walter H. Jacobson	" " "
Mrs Christine Zaher	6812 Parrish Ave Hammond
Alice Fazy	6555 Forest Ave "
Mrs W. A. Fazy	" " " "
Mrs. Ann Sauer	
R. T. and Leona Williams	
Una Cravens	423 Florence St Hammond
Mary J. Ruch	516 Waltham St "
M. J. Pearson	511-165th St. "
Margorie Sohl	5615 Sohl Ave, Hammond



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MINUTES OF THE HAMMOND HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.  
Tuesday, November 18, 1969

The regular meeting of the Hammond Historical Society was called to order by the president, Miss Marjorie Sohl, at 7:40 p.m. in the Community Room of the Hammond Public Library. The minutes of the meeting held September 16, 1969, were read and accepted. Miss Sohl reported on the radio program presented by the Society over Station WJOB and read a letter from Julian Colby, manager of the station, thanking the participants and inviting the Society to present vignettes of history on future programs.

Miss Sohl than introduced the speaker of the evening, Mr. Merritt Metz, long-time attorney in Hammond and now a resident of Lowell. Mr. Metz came to Hammond in 1908 at the age of 20 and, after various kinds of employment, attended Valparaiso University, graduating in 1912. He was an associate in the law offices of William J. O'Brien for many years.

Mr. Metz demonstrated a remarkable memory of the people and places of those times, relating the names and interesting events and traits of character of the lawyers, doctors, and business men with whom he became acquainted. He also located and described the clubs, civic buildings, saloons, business establishments and churches of downtown Hammond at this time.

A tape recording of Mr. Metz' talk was made and added to the archives of the Society.

After a lively session of questions and reminiscences by the audience, the meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Edward B. Hayward*

Edward B. Hayward, Secretary



Attendance at Hammond Historical Society  
Meeting. Tuesday, November 18, 1969.

Name	Address
Edward J. Hayward	6708 Madison Ave. Hammond
Charlotte Kasten	231 Adelaide Pl. Munster
Ann J. Tweedland	918 Summer Hammond
Karenis Knipke	824 Brookmoor Ave. Munster
Emma Hausknecht	835 Morris St. Hammond - Ind.
Mervett D. May Jr.	Box 66 Lowell Ind 46356
Robert E. Wilhelm	5933 - Park Place Hammond Ind.
Marie C. Wilhelm	5933 Park Place Hammond, Ind.
John F. Wilhelm	6346 Holman Ave Hammond, Indiana
Ethel Wilhelm	103 Highland St. Calumet City, Ill.
Alyce Marcus	21269 Nilesdale - Clendau Ohio
Caroline Kingston	

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MINUTES OF THE HAMMOND HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.  
Tuesday, February 3, 1970

The regular meeting of the Hammond Historical Society was called to order by the president, Miss Marjorie Sohl, at 7:40 p.m. in the Community Room of the Hammond Public Library. The minutes of the meeting held November 18, 1969, were read and accepted.

Miss Sohl then introduced the speaker of the evening, Captain Gordon Whitney, of the Hammond Fire Department. Captain Whitney began his talk by calling attention to the scarcity of written records of the fire department and thanking his fellow fire fighters for their assistance in helping collect facts which they could remember. He also acknowledged a debt to Warren Reeder for making available information in his possession and to the staff of the Hammond Public Library.

He started his relation of the early days of fire fighting by telling of the volunteer fire companies who sometimes fought each other for the honor and reward of saving insured buildings. Hammond's first fire departments were made up of volunteers until 1901 when a paid department was formed. It was shortly after this that the great packing house fire occurred which so drastically changed the history of Hammond.

As the talk proceeded, it was evident that a great amount of research had gone into the preparation of Captain Whitney's paper detailing as it did the names and dates and surrounding events of each era of the Hammond Fire Department's development. A tape recording was made of his talk and it is to be hoped that the Society will be able to use this as the basis for a publication. Captain Whitney said that the official records of the fire department are kept in the Chief's Office at City Hall. After a lively question and answer period the meeting was adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Edward B. Hayward*

Edward B. Hayward, secretary



ATTENDANCE  
HAMMOND HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
February 3, 1970

(20)

NAMEADDRESS

Wamen Reeder	30 Glendale Park
Gordon Whitteef	- 6806 Grand-
Emma Hausknecht	835 Morris St. Hammond.
Charlotte Kasten	201 Adelaide Pl. Munster
Ann Stevensand	918 Summer Blvd. Hammond.
Elue Marx	4725 Henry Ave. "
Kurt Marx	4725 Henry Ave. Hammond.
Florence Cleveland	640-165 E St Hammond
Margaret Moore	257 W. 1st St. Hammond. Ind.
Mrs. Gordon Whitney	6806 Grand.
John Wilhelm	6346 Holman Ave Hammond, Indiana
Ethel Wilhelm	
Verlyn Mack	14 Ruth St - Hammond, Indiana
Harold Taylor	1925 Calumet ave
Robert Blaemire.	6949 Ridgeland ave
Calvin Bellamy	225 Southmoon Rd.
Delbert Bud Purkey	7114 Lyman avenue
Constance E Purkey	7114 Lyman ave
Tom W. Luning	333 Clyde C. C.
Marjorie Loh	5015 Loh Ave.



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MINUTES OF THE HAMMOND HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.  
Tuesday, March 17, 1970

The regular meeting of the Hammond Historical Society was called to order by the president, Miss Marjorie Sohl, at 7:45 p.m. in the Community Room of the Hammond Public Library. The minutes of the meeting held February 3, 1970, were read and accepted. The treasurer reported that the current financial situation was given in the March Newsletter showing a balance on hand of \$689.41.

Miss Sohl announced that a nominating committee had been appointed made up of Florence Cleveland, Chairman, Mrs. Harry Wilson, and Warren A. Reeder.

Miss Sohl introduced Mr. Ernst Fischer, honorary president of the Sangebund Fidelia and Mr. Max Behrens, current president. Six other members of this organization who were present and were also introduced.

Mr. Fischer and Mr. Behrens related events of the history of the two German singing groups which merged in 1901 to form the Sangebund Fidelia. The Sangebund began in 1886 and the Fidelia ten years later. Mr. Fischer stated that the groups began for the purpose of providing young men of German origin an opportunity to get together and sing the songs of their native land, but they have never been an exclusively national group and they soon became a mixed group because they found they needed the help of the ladies.

Unfortunately their home country became involved in two wars with their adopted nation causing unwarranted prejudices against their society during the times of conflict, but they have always endeavored to keep the respect of all nationalities believing that music should bring all people closer together. The only requirements for membership are a love of singing and the time to attend rehearsals regularly. For many years the Sangebund Fidelia has given two public concerts annually, on the first Sunday in May and the first Sunday in November. They now sing at the American Legion Hall in Calumet City because no suitable hall is available in Hammond.

After Mr. Fischer's and Mr. Behrens' talk the meeting was opened to questions and discussion. Mr. Heinz J. Manske stated that the German-American Congress would celebrate its seventh anniversary in Hammond with a dinner ~~date~~ on April 25th.

The meeting adjourned at 9:30.

Respectfully submitted,

Edward B. Hayward, Secretary



Attendance at the Meeting of the Hammond  
Historical Society, March 17, 1930

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Sam Arnold, 8806 Woodward, Highland, Ind  
Thence Cleland 640-1652d St Hammond  
Mary Ruck 516 Waltham St. "  
Charlotte Kasten 251 Adelaide Pl. Munster  
Emma Hauke 835 Morris St. Hammond Ind.  
Ann Stewesand 918 Summer Hammond, 2nd.  
Ruth Whitman 3003-97th Pl. Apt. 1a Highland Ind.  
Nina Cravens 423 Florence St. Hammond  
Gladys Hays 7921 Delmar Ave., Hammond  
Katherine Williams 8801 Schneider Ave. Apt. 14. Highland, Ind 46322  
Norman Allen 1307 Baring Pkwy Hammond 46324  
Margaret Moore 257 Doty St. Hammond - Ind  
Jean Wilson 8229 Park View, Munster  
Gladys Galt 4007 Johnson Ave Hammond  
Mrs. F. Galt 4009 Johnson Ave. Hammond  
Mrs. Karin Sorenson 237-157th St. Calumet City  
Miss Jutta Sorenson 237-157th St. Calumet City  
Mrs Mary R. Peters 5428 Moraine, Munster Ind.  
Calvin Bellamy 225 Southmoor Rd Hammond  
Karel Wagner 6519 Forest Ave., Hammond.  
(Mrs. Hanel) Helen Wagner - 6519 - Forest Ave - Hammond  
Ruth Hamske, 1150 Fisher St. Munster, Ind.  
Josephine Buchholz 35 Doty St. Hammond - Ind.  
Heinz J. Hamske 1150 FISHER ST. MUNSTER, IND.  
Ethel Wilhelm 6346 Holman Hammond  
John Wilhelm 6346 Holman Ave Hammond  
MAX BEHRENS 17313 HALTER ST. LANGING, ILL  
ERNST FISCHER 25 - 162ND PLACE CALUMET CITY, ILL  
Anna Walter 17 - 156th Place Calumet City Ill  
Mr. Mrs. Arnold Meili 544 Harrison Calumet City Ill

Gordon Whittey	6806 Grand - Harid
Verlyn Mack	14 Ruth - Hammond
Warren Reeder	30 Glendale Park - Harid
Edvard R. Hageraal	
Margaret Sobel	



Minutes of the Eleventh Annual Meeting of the  
Hammond Historical Society, Inc.  
Tuesday, May 26, 1970

The eleventh annual meeting of the Hammond Historical Society, Inc. was held as a dinner meeting at the St. Casimir Church, 4340 Johnson Avenue., Hammond on Tuesday, May 26, 1970 at 6:30 p.m.

Mr. John F. Wilhelm, Toastmaster for the evening, called upon Father Balczum, paster of the church for the invocation. Dinner was served by the ladies of the church.

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 by the President, Miss Marjorie Sohl who welcomed the members and guests present. Mr. Hayward read the secretary's report of the May 20, 1969 annual meeting which was accepted. Warren Reeder presented the treasurer's report showing a balance of \$679.28 as of April 30, 1970. Income from May 1, 1969 to April 30, 1970 was \$429.25 and expenses were \$294.30.

The nominating committee report was presented by Mrs. Florence Cleveland, Chairman and consisted of the following slate of officers and directors:

OFFICERS AND BOARD  
HAMMOND HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
1970-1971

President - Gordon Whitney, 7207 Belmont Avenue, Hammond  
1st Vice President - Mr. Thomas McKinney, 333 Clyde St., C.C. Ill.  
2nd Vice President - Mrs. Delbert Purkey, 7114 Lyman Ave. Hamm.  
3rd Vice President - Mr. Walter Gooley, 7845 Delmar, Hamm.  
4th Vice President - Mrs. Stella Miner, 8254 Northcote, Munster  
Secretary - Miss Marjorie Sohl, 5615 Sohl, Hammond  
Treasurer - Mr. Warren Reeder, 30 Glendale Pk., Hamm.

DIRECTORS - Term expiring May 1971

Mr. Norman Allen - 7051 Knickerbocker, Hammond  
Mr. Henry Reissig - 536 May Street, Hammond  
Miss Charlotte Kasten - 231 Adelaide Place, Munster  
Mrs. Ann Stevesand - 918 Summer Street, Hammond  
Mr. Kurt Marx - 4725 Henry, Hammond.

DIRECTORS - Term expiring May, 1972

Mr. Ray G. Williams - 5945 Hyslop Place, Hammond  
Mrs. Lida Owens - 440 Highland Street, Hammond  
Miss Helen Hogue - 242 Oakwood, Hammond  
Mrs. Margaret Moore - 257 Doty Street, Hammond  
Miss Alice Fuzy - 6555 Forest Avenue, Hammond



DIRECTORS - Term expiring May, 1973

Mrs. Alice Brooks - 8148 Meadow Lane, Munster  
 Mr. Harry Wilson - 8229 Parkway Avenue, Munster  
 Mr. Edward C. Minas, III - 8226 Baring Pk. Munster  
 Miss Georgia Barnett - 2434 Martha, Hammond  
 Mr. Max Pearson - 511-165th Street, Hammond

DIRECTORS - Term expiring May, 1974

Mr. Verlyn Mack - 14 Ruth Street, Hammond  
 Miss Fern Arnold - 8808 Woodward, Highland  
 Mrs. Nina Cravens - 423 Florence Street, Hammond  
 Mrs. Ruth Whitman - 3003-97th Place, Highland  
 Miss Florence Allman - 239-169th Street, Hammond

Mr. Verlyn Mack moved that the slate of officers and directors presented by the nominating committee be accepted and that the secretary cast a unanimous ballot for their election. Mr. John Wilhelm seconded this motion which carried.

The President read her report covering the past year which report is appended to these minutes.

Mr. Wilhelm announced that a bus tour of Hammond and environs will be held on Sunday, July 12th. The bus will leave from Waltham and Hohman at 1:30 p.m. and return about 5:00 p.m. Cost, \$1.00 per person.

Mr. Anthony Betustark presented a design for a flag for the City of Hammond which he had been commissioned by the Mayor to prepare.

Mr. Wilhelm conducted a memorial service for the three society members who had died during the year, Margaret Allen, Alys Marcus and Arthur Weiss. A white rose was presented in memory of each followed by a moment of silent prayer.

Father Balczum read a brief history of the St. Casimir's Parish, a copy of which is appended to these minutes.

Mr. Gordon Whitney introduced the speaker of the evening, Dr. George Fleming, Professor and Chairman of the History Department at St. Joseph College.

Dr. Fleming is the co-editor of Famous Battles of the Civil War and is presently writing a biography of General John A. Logan.

Before speaking on General Logan, Dr. Fleming paid tribute to the value of local history and the local historian. "A community doesn't have to have the age of Williamsburg or the glamor of the Alamo to be the source of important history". he said. We in the Calumet are at the center of the significant events of the industrial age of the twentieth century.



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Turning to his main topic, Dr. Fleming said that at the present moment General Logan is best known as the subject of the statue by St. Gaudens in Logan Square, Chicago where the protest marchers assemble. This statue was erected twelve years after General Logan's death at a time when his reputation as a political and military leader was at its height.

<sup>John</sup>~~George~~ A. Logan was born in 1826 in Jackson County, Illinois. At the age of twenty-one he led the Jackson County group which saw duty in the Mexican War. He gained a reputation for courage and also as something of a hell raiser, gambling and horse racing. He was elected to the State Legislative in 1853 and to Congress in 1858. He developed skill as a stump orator and was also helped in his political career by his wife who was an educated woman. Like most of his constituents, <sup>George</sup>~~George~~ Logan was southern in his origin and attitudes, but fervent in his loyalty to the United States. He was greatly disturbed by the issues of slavery and states rights, but he denounced secession and was relected to Congress as a Republican when Lincoln was elected President. He was in Washington and was at the picnic which was overrun by the Battle of Bull Run. He picked up a rifle and joined the battle. He returned to Jackson County, resigned from Congress and raised a regiment of which he was commissioned Colonel. In spite of his southern sympathies, he evidently had decided to put aside politics and to make an honorable military record in the cause of national unity.

His military career was distinguished although controversial in that he was considered a political general by General Sherman and some of the other West Pointers. He served with Grant at Vicksburg and was made a Corps Commander. He missed the march to the sea because he had returned to Illinois to campaign for Lincoln, but he served in the Virginia campaign.

After the war he became a standard bearer of the Republican Party and was at different times chairman of the Senate Military Affairs Committee, Grand Commander of the Grand Army of the Republic and, in 1844, Vice Presidential candidate with Blaine on the Republican ticket.

Dr. Fleming concluded his speech by quoting from General Logan's general order number 1958 of May 30, 1868 which proclaimed the first Memorial Day.

The meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Edward B. Hayward, Secretary



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ANNUAL REPORT, 1969 - 1970

At the conclusion of my term in office as the eleventh president of the Hammond Historical Society, it seems fitting not only to look back over the past year but also over the past decade to realize that in this relatively short time, the Hammond Historical Society has become a recognized source of information about Hammond history. We are not always able to supply all the answers that people seek on early Hammond history, but at least people do recognize us as the place to ask. Had our early fathers been as aware of this need to record current events as we are today, our task would not be as great in our search for the past. However, it has made us aware of our responsibility to record today and to go on from here for the generations to follow us.

Our year began with the annual tour on June 29, 1969 when a group of twenty-four visited the seat of our earliest beginnings in Lake County, the site of the first county court house in Lake Station, now East Gary, before it was moved to Crown Point. We also visited other points of interest in and around East Gary of importance in early history of Lake County.

During the summer, about fifteen of our members took advantage of the opportunity to attend a meeting of the Indiana Historical Society, meeting locally, on July 15, 1969, and became aware of the state wide job of recording history.

In September we celebrated the centennial of two related events germinal to the founding of Hammond: the first successful shipment of refrigerated beef from the western stockyards to the eastern markets and the establishment of the G. H. Hammond Packing Company in Hammond. During the month of September, we had on display in the



Page 2 - Annual Report

library a model of one of the early refrigerator cars loaned to us by Mr. I. A. Grodzins of Chicago. At our meeting on September 16, 1969, Warren Reeder reviewed for us the life and times of George H. Hammond. Five descendents of the Hammond family who were at the meeting were acknowledged.

At the November 18, 1969 meeting of the society, Mr. Merritt Metz, a long-time attorney in Hammond reminiscenced of the business and professional men of Hammond after he came here in 1908.

On February 3, 1970, Gordon Whitney, our next president, presented the results of many months of searching and compiling of a history of the Hammond Fire Department. He made our "burning past" come alive with his "hot" stories of historical events. Plans are in process for the future publication of his study.

On the traditional day of the Irish, March 17, 1970, we honored the Germans of our past by a program devoted to the Sangebund Fidelia, a German singing group dating from 1886. Mr. Max Behrens, its current president, and Mr. Ernst Fischer, its honorary president both spoke, tracing its history up to its current activities. Hammond has deep German roots with its early meat packing plant attracting the German craftsmen.

Throughout this year we have had several opportunities to present the activities of the society to the public. In November a group from the society were interviewed at Howard Johnson's restaurant by Tony Rigaro over WJOB radio station. In March a similar group was interviewed by Marylou Kieswletter on her channel 50 TV program, Under the Stars and Stripes. Early this year when

Page 3 - Annual Report

the controversy arose over renaming Douglas Park on the north side, the society was called upon to supply information on the source of the name. Even though we were unable to produce a definitive answer to this question, it did lead to our acquisition of microfilm of broken files of two Crown Point newspapers back to 1863. All of our programs this year have been recorded on tape to continue to build our collection of oral history.

As this year closes, plans are being made by the library to employ Mrs. Florence Cleveland on a part-time basis after her retirement to organize and classify some of the material which has been donated to the Hammond Historical Society and, up to this time, only stored in the Calumet Room. There is still much to be done to record our past and present, and it can be done only by each one of you, our members, helping to do it.

Marjorie Sohl, President



United by their common history, language and traditions, strengthened by their deep faith, the Polish immigrants who lived on the sandy soil near the Calumet River were determined to give expression to their faith and traditions by organizing themselves into a religious congregation. These pioneers of St. Casimir's Parish knew well the difficulties before them: fifty families scattered from Hegewisch to East Gary, and from Whiting to South Hammond in days when transportation was almost nil; no resident pastor, only the frequent visits of a priest from St. Mary's Church, Otis, or from Michigan City. And so they longed for a church and parish which they could call their own. Their dreams became reality on November 30, 1890, when they selected their first parish committee.

As a result the first resident pastor arrived to take charge of the new community in July of 1891. The founding fathers purchased eight lots at the corner of Cameron Street and Huehn Avenue and erected a two story church-school building which continued in use for a good many years. It was at this time, in 1896, that the Poles in East Chicago organized the first daughter-parish, the present St. Stanislaus parish.

In 1897 when the first resident pastor left for St. Paul, Minnesota, the parish consisted of 125 families, 77 parochial school students with two lay teachers.

The second pastor, who came to Hammond from North Judson, served from 1897 to 1909. His pastorate was marked by the installation of a pipe organ, the purchase of additional property, the construction of a residence for the pastor, and the arrival of three Franciscan nuns in the Fall of 1901, due to an increase in the school enrollment to 168.

A little over half of the parish depended on the Hammond Packing Company for their livelihood. When it was shut down due to fire in 1904, many sought employment at the Chicago packing plants and so the parish decreased in size. But by 1909, the parish still numbered around 120 families. In the years 1909 to 1911 the parish began to prosper. Additional property was purchased, a central heating plant was



installed and electric lights were added to the church building. By 1911 the parish numbered about 200 families. In the nine years which followed, the parish grew to such a size that a building program was initiated. In 1920 a new residence for the pastor was built; in 1922, the old residence was remodelled; and in 1924 the cornerstone of a new church was laid, which was completed in 1925. Built in a modified English-gothic style, the church still dominates the skyline of the northern approaches to Hammond. A new school building and hall were also begun at this time and completed by the end of the twenties.

In the thirties and forties the parish grew and prospered. So much so that a new school building was needed as well as a new residence for the nuns. In 1951 a new and ample building was constructed for the nuns which remains to this day. In 1955 a half million dollar school addition was built which has amply served the needs of the parish to this day. Only recently a new residence for the priests serving the parish was built.

Today, St. Casimir's Parish, the mother-parish of ten churches in Lake County, numbers approximately 1400 families with a total membership of about 6,000. 618 students are enrolled in the parochial school which is staffed by 9 Franciscan nuns and 11 lay teachers.

In the past eighty years St. Casimir's parish together with the city of Hammond has grown and prospered. The story of St. Casimir's is a story of only a part of Hammond's citizens. Nevertheless, it is a part which has contributed to the general welfare of the entire city. It is indeed an honor and privilege for St. Casimir's parish to host this annual gathering of the Hammond Historical Society. By meeting here today you pay a respectful tribute to some of the early pioneers of our city. On behalf of the members of this parish, past and present, I wish to offer sincere thanks for this tribute. Thank you.

May 26, 1970





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**THE  
HAMMOND  
HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

FINANCIAL REPORT 5/1/69 to 4/30/70

**OFFICERS**

...s. Mary R. Peters  
PRESIDENT  
Mrs. Harry H. Wilson  
1ST VICE PRES.  
Henry J. Schmueser  
2ND VICE PRES.  
Henry O. Reissig  
3RD VICE PRES.  
Miss Marjorie Sohl  
SECRETARY  
Warren A. Reeder  
TREASURER

**DIRECTORS**

Miss Georgia Barnett  
Walter A. Bell  
Mrs. Fred W. Carter  
Henry C. Fehlberg  
Mrs. Marie M. Hanlon  
Mrs. Bertha Kleihege  
E. Clarence Minas  
Edward C. Minas III  
Mrs. Lida M. Owen  
Miss Mildred Peehl  
Mrs. Anna B. Perry  
Joseph Piekarczyk  
Delbert L. Purkey  
Elmer Rose  
Mrs. P. Q. Row  
Mrs. Rose K. Scherer  
Miss Frances Taylor  
Mrs. Ruth B. Whitman  
erry H. Wilson  
Mrs. Roscoe E. Woods

BALANCE ON HAND 5/1/69 ..... \$ 544.33

INCOME:

Dues ..... \$ 287.00  
Annual Banquet 118.25  
Bus Tour ..... 24.00

Total: \$429.25

EXPENSES:

Postage \$ 35.00  
Stationery Supplies 29.66  
Banquet Expense 119.95  
Bus Tour 48.80  
A. A. SLL. H. (dues) 8.00  
Advertising 7.54  
Micro-film 16.20  
Membership app. 15.89  
Sec. of State  
(corporate filing) 1.00  
Oral history book 1.75  
Check book 6.65  
Photographs 2.80  
Tippecanoe Co. Hist.  
Soc. (Roebuck mat.) 1.06

Total \$294.30

BALANCE ON HAND 4/30/70 ..... \$ 679.28

*Warren A. Reeder, Jr.*  
Warren A. Reeder, Jr.  
Treasurer



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ATTENDANCE  
HAMMOND HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
ANNUAL MEETING - MAY 26, 1970

Marjorie Sohl  
Mr. & Mrs. Verlyn Mack  
Mr. & Mrs. Edward B. Hayward  
Mr. & Mrs. Kurt Marx  
Mrs. Clarence Welty  
Mrs. William Fuzy  
Rev. Carl F. Mengeling  
Mrs. Miner  
Mrs. Margaret Auer  
Mr. Anthony Betustak  
Mrs. Ruth Whitman  
Miss Edith Burhans  
Mr. Max Behrens  
Miss Fern Arnold  
Mr. and Mrs. H.H. Wilson  
Mr. & Mrs. Holms  
Mr. & Mrs. Elmer Rose  
Tom McKinney  
Mrs. Esther Bednarczyk  
Mr. George Fleming  
Mr. & Mrs. William Blaemire  
Mr. & Mrs. Joel White  
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Wilhelm  
Miss Joyce Sovinski  
Mr. Leonard Anderson

Mary Ruch  
Mr. & Mrs. Gordon Whitney  
Charlotte Kasten  
Mrs. Dollie Bower  
Mrs. Florence Cleveland  
Miss Alice Fuzy  
Mrs. Alice Brooks  
Mr. Karl Faulskich  
Mrs. Emma Hausknecht  
Mrs. Gladys Hays  
Miss Katherine Williams  
Mrs. Lida Owen  
Mr. & Mrs. Merritt Metz  
Mrs. Margaret Moore  
Mrs. Ann Stevesand  
Ann Marie Owen and guest  
Mrs. Mary Peters  
Mrs. Bernice Modjeski  
Father Anthony Balczun  
Mr. & Mrs. William Arnold  
Mr. & Mrs. C.B. Harrison  
Mr. & Mrs. John F. Wilhelm  
Mr. Warren Reeder  
Mr. Coombs  
Mr. & Mrs. Marion Isaacs

HAMMOND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

100

Tenth Annual Dinner

Tuesday, May 26, 1970

St. Casimer's Church  
4340 Johnson Street  
Hammond, Indiana

6:30 p.m.

Donation \$2.50



## Fleming To Speak

HAMMOND—Dr. George Fleming of St. Joseph College Calumet Center will address the Hammond Historical Society when it meets at 6:30 p.m. May 26 in the St. Casimir parish hall, 4340 Johnson St.

He will discuss Gen. John A. Logan, a Civil War leader.

The Rev. Anthony A. Balczun, pastor of St. Casimir Church, will give a brief history of the parish which was the second Roman Catholic church established in Hammond.

St. Joseph Church on Hohman Avenue, in the downtown area, was the first.

THE TIMES

Wed, May 20, 1970

7B



DR. GEORGE FLEMING  
... speaker

## Historians To Convene

HAMMOND — Dr. George J. Fleming of St. Joseph's College Calumet Center will address the 10th annual dinner-meeting of the Hammond Historical Society in St. Casimir parish hall May 26.

His topic at the 6:30 p.m. event will be "General John A. Logan." Logan participated in the Civil War.

A brief history of St. Casimir Church will be given by the Rev. Anthony Balczun, pastor.

705  
HAMMOND  
HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY



*10<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting*

Dinner 6:30 P.M.

May 26, 1970

St. Casimir's Church  
4340 Johnson St.  
Hammond, Indiana



HAMMOND HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
10th ANNUAL DINNER MEETING  
May 26, 1970 6:30 p.m.

St. Casimir Church  
4340 Johnson Avenue  
Hammond, Indiana

WELCOME.....Toastmaster, Mr. John F. Wilhelm

INVOCATION.....Father Balczum

DINNER.....Served by Mrs. Walter Trzupke  
and assistants

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

BUSINESS MEETING AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Minutes of May 20, 1969

Mr. Edward Hayward, Secretary

Treasurer's Annual Report

Mr. Warren Reeder, Jr., Treasurer

Report of Nominating Committee

Mrs. Florence Cleveland, Chairman

President's Annual Report

Miss Marjorie Sohl, President

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MEMORIAL SERVICE.....Mr. John F. Wilhelm

Margaret Allen, Alys Marcus, Arthur Weiss

HISTORY OF ST. CASIMIR CHURCH

Father Balczum

SPEAKER.....Dr. George Fleming

"General John A. Logan"

ADJOURNMENT

OFFICERS 1969 - 1970

President.....Miss Marjorie Sohl

1st Vice President.....Mr. Gordon Whitney

2nd Vice President.....Mrs. Alys Marcus  
(Deceased)

Secretary.....Mr. Edward Hayward

Treasurer.....Mr. Warren Reeder, Jr.

DIRECTORS

Mr. Norman Allen	Mr. Edward Minas, III
Miss Florence Allman	Mrs. Margaret Moore
Miss Georgia Barnett	Mrs. Lida Owen
Mrs. Alice Brooks	Mr. Max Pearson
Mrs. Nina Cravens	Mr. Harry Reissig
Miss Alice Fuzy	Mrs. P. Q. Row
Miss Helen Hogue	Mrs. Anna Stevesand
Miss Caroline Hohman	Mr. Ray G. Williams
Miss Charlotte Kasten	Mr. Harry Wilson
Mr. Kurt Marx	

PAST PRESIDENTS

Mr. John F. Wilhelm	1959-60
Mr. Warren Reeder, Jr.	1960-61
Mr. Edward B. Hayward	1961-62
Mrs. Vincent Bower	1962-63
Mr. George Nelson	1963-64
Mr. Anton Tapper (Deceased)	1964-65
Mrs. Mary Peters	1965-66
Mrs. Harry Wilson	1966-67
Mr. Walter Bell (Deceased)	1967-68
Mrs. Henry Cleveland	1968-69

WHAT IT IS

The Hammond Historical Society was founded in 1960 "to publish, and to promote and preserve historical knowledge and to spread historical information with reference to the City of Hammond, Lake County, Indiana."

WHAT THE GOALS ARE

- "To establish and maintain a historical museum."
- "To promote education to both young and old toward historical inquiry."
- "To collect and preserve materials of history, art and industry."
- "To publish a regular bulletin to keep its members in touch with these goals."

MEMBERS ARE INVITED TO

- Join tours to points of historical interest.
- Attend the Society's lectures and exhibits, usually about four meetings per year.

WHAT YOU GIVE

- First, your interest in this program for promoting and preserving our historical heritage.
- Second, your nominal dues:
  - Individual Membership - \$3.00
  - Institutional Membership - \$10.00
  - Service Membership - \$2.00  
(Clubs, Churches, etc.)
  - Corresponding Membership - \$5.00  
(Non-resident of Calumet Area)

WHAT YOU DO

To accept this invitation to membership, just send your dues with your name and address to the Treasurer, Mr. Warren Reeder, Jr., 260 - 165th Street, Hammond, Indiana 46324.



MINUTES OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
HAMMOND HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.  
Wednesday, June 24, 1970

The Board of Directors of the Hammond Historical Society met at 1:30 p.m. in the Calumet Room of the Hammond Public Library on Wednesday, June 24, 1970. Nineteen members attended, list is attached. Mrs. Lida Owens had called to be excused because of being out of town and Verlyn Mack was in the hospital for surgery. The president, Gordon Whitney, presided.

The time and frequency of the meetings for the next year were discussed. The general consensus was to hold at least six meetings and to try holding them on Saturday or Sunday afternoons. The following schedule of dates was suggested:

Saturday, Sept. 26

Saturday, Oct. 31

Saturday, Nov. 28

Sunday, Feb. 28

Saturday, April 24

May ??, Annual meeting at All Saints Church.

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The following were suggestions made for future programs:

1. Repeat Gordon Whitney's program on the history of the Hammond Fire Department because it was given on such a bad night weatherwise.
2. A program on Lincoln in Indiana at the February meeting. Gerald McMurtry of Lincoln Life Insurance Company suggested.
3. Hutton; a 3rd generation architect.
4. Hammond's living former mayors: Smith, Anderson and Dowling.
5. An education program to point out what the present program of the schools is.
6. Advertise to try to find the oldest person living in Hammond and have them attend a meeting.
7. Pageant of the president's wives as that presented at the DAR meeting.
8. Program presented by women in costume from the San Ridge Nature Center on early foods and cooking.
9. History of the organization of the Calumet Campus of Purdue University. (Don Gardner and Del Anderson)
10. Pot pourri of individuals stories.
11. Tom McKinney on the auto industry in Indiana.
12. Annual Meeting Speaker -- A bigger name speaker as ex-governor Branigan of Lafayette.
13. Walt Milligan - History of the Fish and Game
14. Floyd Murray - On Knute Rockne
15. Frank Seliger
16. Hammond Family - Florence Cleveland and Alice Brooks.
17. Fred Dieterich and the Wonder Bakery
18. Beatty Machine Company History.

Other suggestions for the year were:

1. We make a concerted effort to get more members by more publicity and by having a membership committee to serve as a telephone committee before each meeting.

Page 2 - Board Minutes, June 24, 1970.

2. Mr. Wilhelm suggested we adopt a slogan for the year:  
"Put the Hammond Historical Society on your mailing list,"  
and that we try to get every church and organization to  
mail each of its publications to the historical society  
regularly.
3. We consider an offer by the Lake County Model-A Restorers  
to go on the tour next year in a parade of Model-A's.
4. We co-operate with the downtown merchants Old-Fashion-Day  
with an antique auto show in the library parking lot,  
publicized before hand with a series of pictures of some  
of the old cars to be displayed.

Mr. Reeder presented an appeal received by him for the Historical Society to make a contribution to the project of the Hoosier Art Salon to erect a bronze marker on the building it now owns, the former Christian Science Church at 5448 ohman, as a historical spot. On a motion by Kurt Marx, seconded by Tom McKinney, it was decided to send them \$50.00/

The bus tour this year of local places of historical interest will be held on Sunday, July 12, price, \$1.00. The meeting adjourned at 2:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Marjorie Sohl*

Marjorie Sohl, Secretary



ATTENDANCE  
HAMMOND HISTORICAL SOCIETY BOARD MEETING  
Wednesday, June 24, 1970

<u>NAME</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>
Walter Gooley	7845 Delmar Avenue, Hammond
Margaret Moore	257 Doty Street, Hammond
Fern Arnold	8806 Woodward Avenue, Highland
Kurt Marx	4725 Henry Avenue, Hammond
Tom McKinney	333 Clyde Street, Calumet City, Ill.
Ann Stevesand	918 Summer Blvd. Hammond
Charlotte Kasten	231 Adelaide Place, Munster
Nina Cravens	423 Florence Street, Hammond
Dollie Bower	6916 Hohman Avenue, Hammond
Florence Cleveland	640 - 165th Street, Hammond
Ruth Whitman	3003 - 97th Place, Apt. 1A, Highland
Alice Brooks	8148 Meadow Lane, Munster
Gordon Whitney	6806 Grand Avenue, Hammond
Warren Reeder	30 Glendale Park, Hammond
R. T. Williams	5945 Hyslop Place, Hammond
Leona Williams	<del>XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX</del>
Jean Wilson	8229 Park View, Munster
John F. Wilhelm	6346 Hohman Avenue, Hammond
Marjorie Sohl	5615 Sohl Avenue, Hammond

HAMMOND HISTORICAL SOCIETY TOUR  
Sunday, July 12, 1970

ATTENDANCE ± 26

Ruth Whitman  
Emma Hausknecht  
Alice Brooks  
Dorothy Bemisderfer  
Mr. & Mrs. George Nelson  
Charlotte Kasten & Friend  
Warren Reeder  
Mrs. Farrell Leeney  
Howard Cook and 2 Friends  
Mary Ruch  
Margaret Moore  
Alma Schreiber  
Ann Stevesand  
Gladys Hayes  
Mrs. LaBorde  
Mr. & Mrs. Louis Ince  
Mrs. Kish  
John Wilhelm  
Mr. & Mrs. Edward Hayward  
Marjorie Sohl

least 1

THE TIMES  
Tuesday, July 7, 1970

## History Club Schedules Tour

HAMMOND—The Hammond Historical Society has arranged a tour of Hammond for its members and guests.

The group will meet at 1:30 p.m. Sunday at the Board of Education Building, Hohman Avenue and Waltham Street.

Reservations are being made with Secretary Marjorie Sohl at the Main Public Library building, 566 State St.





## *Fayette Street, 1933*

This is a 1933 view of Hammond's Fayette Street showing the five story Hammond Building (left) built at the turn of the century by Sidmon McHie, founder of The Times; The Times Building, Illinois Bell Telephone Co. business office and the Roscoe E. Woods & Co., realtor office.



## *Fayette Street, 1970*

Today, Fayette Street, east from Hohman Avenue, looks like this. The Times has taken over quarters of the Illinois Bell business office, the Woods office and a second floor formerly occupied by the Chamber of Commerce. The 1933 view, courtesy Hammond Historical Society.



# Hammond Today Is Not What It Was [78]

(EDITOR'S NOTE — Scenes of Hammond, and vicinity, pictured as they were some years ago and as they look today, will be published regularly in The Times. The "old-time" photos are furnished by the Hammond Historical Society.)

**HAMMOND** — The picture of downtown Fayette Street, east from Hohman Avenue to Oakley Avenue, has changed over the years.

It was a two-way traffic street in the "olden" days. Today, one-way traffic travels west.

At one time, parking on both sides of the street was unrestricted. One could park a car early in the morning and return at night without having an "overtime" parking ticket stuck under the windshield wiper.

The five-story Hammond Building—facing Hohman Avenue and extending to the Fayette alley — was the city's first "skyscraper."

**IT WAS** built at the turn of the century by Sidmon McHie, founder and first publisher of the Lake County Times, later The Hammond Times, and today The Times.

An interesting bit of information on a real estate transaction of the building's site is on file with the Hammond Historical Society.

A Mrs. Mary Schutz had purchased the lot in 1891 for \$150. McHie bought the land for \$12,500. He considered it as being in a "prime" location for the city's business development.

The Hammond Building still stands today — in the center of the city's business district. Its face was lifted in a remodeling project some years ago.

The Lake County Times was published, until 1924, in second floor quarters in the back end of the Hammond Building. Presses were in the basement.

A new Times Building was constructed in 1924 across the

alley from the Hammond Building.

**REALTOR** Roscoe E. Woods in 1924 purchased from Elizabeth Goodland, Chicago, real estate to the east of The Times Building for \$15,000.

A building was constructed. It housed on the ground floor offices of the Roscoe E. Woods & Co., and business offices of the Illinois Bell Telephone Co. The Hammond Chamber of Commerce occupied the second floor.

Face-lifting and additional construction have changed the look of both sides of Fayette Street from the alley eastward to the railroad tracks.

The Times has taken over quarters of the Illinois Bell Telephone Co. business office, the Woods office and the Chamber of Commerce headquarters.

An addition was built in a vacant lot between the Woods Building and a garage. This space, too, is occupied by The Times.

The Chamber of Commerce is housed in the remodeled garage.

**NORTHERN** Indiana Public Service Co., sub-station 9, built in 1925, still stands west of the Chamber of Commerce office.

It supplied power to the downtown area until 1951. In 1951, the station was moved outside to the rear, and still supplies power to the downtown area.

The building itself was converted into a service shop for NIPSCO. Today, it serves mostly as a storage building for the utility.

On the south side of Fayette Street, immediately in the rear of the Calumet National Bank Building, the Illinois Bell Telephone Co., exchange and business offices are housed in a building which occupies the site of a former service station and a parking lot.



MINUTES OF THE HAMMOND HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.  
Saturday, September 26, 1970

The Hammond Historical Society held its first meeting of the new year at the Hammond Public Library on Saturday, September 26 at 1:30 p.m. In the absence of the president, Warren Reeder presided. A roll call sheet was passed, showing an attendance of 32. The treasurer announced a balance of \$703.14.

The following announcements were made: 1. The library now has available for loan a copy of the book, TRAIN WRECK, by Wesley Griswold which includes an account of the Hagenbeck-Wallace train wreck in which the Hammond Historical Society and Warren Reeder, Jr. are acknowledged for assistance in getting pictures. 2. Three dozen more copies of Dr. Moore's history of the Calumet Region are available at \$7.50 each. 3. Warren Reeder has available now a name index of the 1904 edition of the Hammond Daily News. A copy of it will also be available in the library. 4. A meeting will be held next Tuesday evening, Sept. 29 at 7:30 p.m. at the Lake County Library Reference Center for all people interested in trying to preserve the old County Court House as a county museum and record storage center. The meeting is being called by Mr. Bartolini and Mrs. Saylor.

Warren Reeder introduced the speaker of the day, our own Vice President, Tom McKinney. Mr. McKinney is a salesman for J.J. Wright Oldsmobile. He has made a hobby of old automobiles for many years. He presented a very interesting off-the-cuff history of early auto manufacturers of Indiana and early Hammond dealers. His comments were interspersed with tape recorded sound effects of the starting of some of the early autos. This year is the 75th anniversary of the first auto patent, Nov. 5, 1895, which was never manufactured and which Henry Ford later proved invalid. Indiana was really the birthplace of the automobile, and during the period of 75 years, over 300 different makes of cars have been manufactured in every part of the state, but because of an unfavorable tax climate, every one of the large manufacturers has left the state and only Studebaker is in existence today. However, it is not manufacturing cars now, but an oil additive, STP. Elwood Haynes drove the first automobile in Kokomo on July 4, 1894 and soon after that many buggy manufacturers became auto manufacturers. Running down an alphabetical list of different makes of cars, Mr. McKinney gave his off-the-cuff comments on who or what each was named after and drew from his vast fund of assimilated knowledge of early auto history. He included such interesting pieces of information as the origin of the rear view mirror and the early, but unsuccessful, eight wheeled auto.

Speaking about the local auto dealers, Mr. McKinney mentioned such historically familiar names as Schmueser, Bunnell, Knoerzer, Shaver, Bohling, Smith, Szabo, Abrahamson, Bieker, O'Neill, Lute and Hirschback and gave interesting side-lights on each. In a question and answer period, Mr. Wilhelm added such names as Dan Oram, Paul Pardune, Ronnie Thiel and John Myers to this list of early dealers.

Page 2 - Minutes - September 26, 1970.

Warren Reeder announced the next meeting for Saturday, Oct. 31 at 1:30 p.m. when former Mayor Bert Smith will be present to discuss his administration as Mayor, 1942-48. Coffee and cookies were served during an informal hour for examination of the many pictures that Mr. McKinney had on display from his personal collection.

Respectfully submitted,

*Marjorie Sohl*

Marjorie Sohl, Secretary



HAMMOND HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
ATTENDANCE  
SEPT. 26, 1970

<u>NAME</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>
Miss Mary J. Maguire	513 Lewis Street, Hammond
Dollie K. Bower	6916 S. Hohman Ave. Hammond
Charlotte Kasten	231 Adelaide Place, Munster
Emma Hausknecht	835 Morris Street, Hammond
Grace Parker	7523 Olcott Avenue, Hammond
Mrs. O.H. Umbaugh	4460 Arizona Avenue, Hammond
Florence Cleveland	8948 White Oak Avenue, Munster
Fern Arnold	8806 Woodward Avenue, Highland
Mary R. Peters	8428 Moraine Avenue, Munster
Ruth Whitman	3003 - 97th Place, Highland
Gladys Hays	7931 Delmar Avenue, Hammond
Margaret Moore	257 Doty Street, Hammond
F. Emil Reed	618 - 169th Street, Hammond
R. T. and Leona Williams	5945 Hyslop Place, Hammond
Verlyn Peter Mack	14 Ruth Street, Hammond
Delbert F. Bud Purkey	7114 Lyman Avenue, Hammond
Constance E. Purkey	7114 Lyman Avenue, Hammond
Louis N. Cook	6944 Osborn Avenue, Hammond
V. E. Iliff	2530 - 169th Street, Hammond
Edward Hayward	6708 Madison Avenue, Hammond
John F. Wilhelm	6346 Hohman Avenue, Hammond
Ethel Wilhelm	6346 Hohman Avenue, Hammond
Nancy V. Clower	6923 White Oak Avenue, Hammond
Conchetta Geis	7337 White Oak Avenue, Hammond
Nina Cravens	423 Florence Street, Hammond
Therese Black	911 Lyons Street, Hammond
Harry Black	7406 Monroe Avenue, Hammond
Tom and Keith McKinney	333 Clyde Avenue, Calumet City, Ill.
Warren Reeder	
Marjorie Sohl	

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THE TIMES  
4A Thursday, Oct 22, 1970

# City's History Reviewed

HAMMOND—A history of Hammond during World War II years will be reviewed before the Hammond Historical Society by former Mayor G. Bertram Smith.

Smith, who was mayor from 1942 through 1948, will be a guest speaker at 1:30 p.m. Oct. 31 in the Main Public Library, 56 State St.

He was city controller under the late Mayor Frank R. Martin and filled two years of Martin's unexpired term when Martin was elected county treasurer.

Smith will tell of the Works Progress Administration whose operation was just ending when he took office.

He will review the long lines of draftees leaving for service. Rationing and other war-time restrictions will be recalled.



MINUTES OF THE HAMMOND HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.  
Saturday, October 31, 1970

The Hammond Historical Society met at the Hammond Public Library on Saturday, October 31, 1970 at 1:30 p.m. The president, Gordon Whitney, presided. A roll call sheet was passed, showing an attendance of 28. Minutes of the last meeting were read and approved. The treasurer reported a balance of \$750.22. Warren Reeder announced that he had only five copies of Dr. Powell Moore's book left, but had plenty copies for sale yet of the 1904 edition of the Hammond Daily News at \$1.00 each. He turned over to the society for addition to the tape files a tape he had received from Alesio Agrieste of what he remembered of Hammond 50 years ago as compared with what he saw on a visit to Hammond last summer.

For the program today, a panel of Warren Reeder, John Wilhelm, Gordon Whitney and Verlyn Mack, the first G.I. appointed to the fire department by Mayor Smith, interviewed the guest of honor, former Mayor, G. Bertram Smith, mayor of Hammond from 1942-48. Mayor Smith told of his farm background and early teaching experience in Michigan at a country school and Phares Institute before he joined Sears & Roebuck in Chicago, then Cudahay Packing Company and then Sinclair, before he came to Hammond in the early twenties. His relative, Dr. G. H. Smith, introduced him to Roscoe Woods and Frank Martin in the real estate business which he has been associated with ever since. He pointed out differences in the real estate business in the twenties and now. Then more people sold their own houses and their price quoted was taken for face value rather than our present use of the appraiser's price. Mayor Smith was president of the Real Estate Board and was the second of three mayors in a row who were realtors--Martin, Smith and Anderson. He admitted that he never really wanted to be mayor and enjoyed his days as City Comptroller under Mayor Martin more. While mayor, the Kiwanis Club was the only place he could go without being put on a pedestal.

He felt the two outstanding accomplishments of his administration, in spite of being handicapped with war time restrictions and rationing, were the widening of Hohman Avenue and the removal of overhead wires and car tracks. Wages for mayor have increased from a maximum of \$6240 which he received to \$15,000 now. He paid tribute to some of the leaders in his administration: Police Chief Tom Martinson, Fire Chief Bill Nill, City Attorney Harry Stilley, and Civilian Defence Director Percy Smith.

The next meeting was announced for Saturday, November 28, at 1:30 p.m. at the library when a program on the G.A.R. in Hammond will be presented. Doughnuts and coffee were served.

Respectfully submitted,

*Marjorie Sohl*

Marjorie Sohl, Secretary

HAMMOND HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
ATTENDANCE  
OCTOBER 31, 1970

<u>NAME</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>
Mrs. Verlyn Mack	14 Ruth Street, Hammond
Mrs. Gordon Whitney	6806 Grand Avenue, Hammond
Miss Charlotte Kasten	231 Adelaid Place, Munster
Mrs. Emma Hausknecht	835 Morris Stbeet, Hammond
Conchetta Geis	7337 White Oak Avenue, Hammond
Elsie Marx	4725 Henry Avenue, Hammond
Mrs. Alice L. Brooks	8148 Meadow Lane, Munster
Mrs. H. E. Miner	8254 Northcote Avenue, Munster
Mrs. C. A. Chandler	734 - 164th Street, Hammond
Ethel Howell	
Tom McKinney	333 Clyde Avenue, Calumet City, Ill.
Mrs. H. G. Geiger	6530 Jefferson Avenue, Hammond
F. Emil Reed	618 - 169th Street, Hammond
Delbert F. Bud Purkey	7114 Lyman Avenue, Hammond
Kurt Marx	4725 Henry Avenue, Hammond
Mr. & Mrs. R.T. Williams	5945 Hyslop Place, Hammond
Josephine Glass	271 - 173rd Street, Hammond
Gladys Hays	7931 Delmar Avenue, Hammond
Ruth Whitman	3003 - 97th Place, Highland
Margaret Moore	257 Doty Street, Hammond
Mary Rischlie Peters	8428 Moraine Avenue, Munster
Warren Reeder	
G. Bertram Smith	
Gordon Whitney	
John Wilhelm	
Verlyn Mack	
Marjorie Sohl	



MINUTES OF THE HAMMOND HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.  
Saturday, November 28, 1970

The Hammond Historical Society met in the Hammond Public Library Community Room at 1:30 p.m. on Saturday, November 28, 1970. The president, Gordon Whitney presided. A roll call sheet was passed showing an attendance of 18. Minutes of the October 31 meeting were read and approved. Warren Reeder commented on the wonderful progress being made by Florence Cleveland in organizing the material in the Calumet Room. He reminded all that we still have many copies available for sale of the 1904 edition of the Hammond Daily News.

The program for the day was presented by the president, Gordon Whitney on the G.A.R. and the Daughters of the Union Veterans represented at this meeting. The organization dates from the Grand Review on May 24, 1865 after the Civil War. It was organized in Decatur, Ill. Indiana was the second state to join and by August, 1866 the first post was established in Indianapolis. It's first platform promoted just pensions for veterans and widows and encouraged patriotism. President Johnson became very unpopular and the G.A.R. was a custom made tool to attack the president. Radicals joined the fold and enough ~~were~~ elected to Congress to control it but the impeachment of the president failed by one post. The G.A.R. moved into every state and by 1881 the Sons of Veterans was organized. On May 30, 1885 the Women's Relief Corp was organized. It was the forerunner of the Daughters of Veterans. Its program expanded to promote teaching American history in all schools and established Flag Day. The G.A.R. became a sprawling political power that could elect or defeat a president. President Harrison received more support from the G.A.R. than any other group. McKinley was the last president elected by their support. The group and its influence grew smaller as more and more veterans died. By 1952 there were only 3 veterans left locally: Mr. Streeter, John Taylor, grandfather of Mildred Harter, and Woolsey Hardleroad.

Hammond had three posts but information on only one, the William Calking Post, was available from the State Library. It met on the first and third Wednesday in the Odd Fellows Hall. A flag which at one time belonged to the Women's Relief Corp was obtained from the City Hall and presented to the Society by Mrs. Chandler in attendance at this meeting. Mrs. Chandler, a descendant of Pres. Harrison, had originally presented the flag to the City Hall and her husband had made the case for it. Mr. Whitney obtained from the State archives a copy of 8 pages of registration of members of the post. Warren Reeder pointed out the interesting fact that we are now in the same relationship to World War I, 52 years after, that World War I was to the Civil War, 52 years after.

The next meeting was announced for the last weekend in February with Dr. Gerhard Clausius as the speaker on Lincoln at Gettysburg. An effort will be made to get sons and daughters and grandchildren of Civil War veterans out. The meeting adjourned at 2:15 p.m. with coffee and cookies served.

Respectfully submitted,  
*Marjorie Sohl*  
Marjorie Sohl, Secretary

HAMMOND HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
ATTENDANCE  
NOVEMBER 28, 1970

NAMEADDRESS

Fern Arnold	Highland, Ind.
Florence Cleveland	8948 White Oak Avenue, Munster
Josephine Glasz	271 - 173rd Street, Hammond
Margaret Moore	257 - Doty Street, Hammond
Emma Hausknecht	835 Morris Street, Hammond
Charlotte Kasten	231 Adelaide Place, Munster
Grace Parker	7523 Olcott Avenue, Hammond
Delbert F. Bud Purkey	7114 Lyman Avenue, Hammond
Dollie K. Bower	6916 Hohman Avenue, Hammond
Lida M. Owen	440 Highland Street, Hammond
Ada Chandler	734 - 164th Street, Hammond
Ethel Howell	5957 Park Place, Hammond,
Delara Chenore	541 - 169th Street, Hammond
Zona M. Brentlinger	1041 Morris Street, Hammond
Mary Ruschlie Peters	8428 Moraine Avenue, Munster
Warren Reeder	
Gordon Whitney	
Marjorie Sohl	





THE TIMES  
Sunday, January 24, 1971

## LINCOLN TALK AT LIBRARY

HAMMOND — The Hammond Historical Society will have an Abraham Lincoln program at its meeting at 1:30 p.m. Feb. 28 in the Main Public Library, 566 State St.

Speaker will be Dr. Gerhart Clausius, Chicago, a recognized expert on the life and history of the Civil War president.

Gordon Whitney, president of the historical society, said that descendants of Civil War veterans are invited.

United States involvement in Cambodia has "reached the borderline and maybe stepped over" the limitations imposed by Congress, says Sen. George D. Aiken.

But the Vermont Republican, senior GOP member of the Senate Foreign Affairs Committee, was outstripped in his assessment by Senate Democratic Leader Mike Mansfield, who declared the American air support in Cambodia "contrary to the intent and spirit" of the congressional restrictions.

THE INFORMANTS, former Soviet subjects who now are Israeli citizens, said the students were arrested several months ago in Kishinev, the capital of Moldavia. They said four Russian officials who allegedly accepted money to admit the young Jews to a university also were arrested.

The informants said they those being held would not be tried soon.

said payoffs to educational are a common in the Soviet Union enrollment in the unemployment and compensation is limited and compensation is great.

President A LUMPUR (UPI) — Minister Abdul Razak

The poverty situation was determined either the 1968 or 1969 also significantly increased a year earlier whole was up from employment rate the poverty neighborhood report said. "At 7 a Bureau of Labor and Statistics between 1967 made by poverty jobless rates that reversed the improvement in economic activity in the general decline."

WASHINGTON (Sund released Sund hit by the inflated 1970, Labor Department urban poor were

By 19 Urban

200 ct. — \$1.89 Value  
\$1.61



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# THE TIMES

Friday, February 26, 1971

## LINCOLN TALK TO BE SUNDAY

HAMMOND — A Lincoln scholar will speak Sunday at a public program of the Hammond Historical Society commemorating Lincoln's birthday.

Dr. Gerhardt Clausius of Chicago, author of many articles on Civil War lore and on Lincoln, will be the speaker. The program at the main Hammond Public Library begins at 1:30 p.m.

"Clausius will attempt to mind read Lincoln's thoughts at the dedication of the Gettysburg cemetery on Nov. 19, 1863," Gordon Whitney, president of the society said.



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HAMMOND HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEETING  
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 1971

The Hammond Historical Society met on Sunday, February 28, 1971 at 1:30 p.m. in the Community Room of the Hammond Public Library. Gordon Whitney and Warren Reeder introduced special guests at this meeting: Marion Isaacs, president of the Calumet Region Civil War Round Table, Mrs. Cartha Barth, daughter of a Civil War veteran and her sons John and Joel Hershberger and granddaughter Lori; Mr. & Mrs. Raymond Russell of Rochester, Minn; and Mr. and Mrs. E.C. Brinkman of Evanston, Ill. Announcements called attention to the

1. Lincoln exhibit set up in the room of material from Gordon Whitney's and Warren Reeder's collections.
2. Pictures on display of the first freight car at the Standard Steel Car and an early ice house at either Cedar Lake or Wolf Lake.
3. Report on the progress of the "Save the Red School House" project in Hessville. It is the oldest standing building in Hammond and funds are being collected in Hessville to move the school to park property, restore it and maintain it.

Minutes of the November 28, 1970 meeting were read and approved. A roll call sheet was passed recording 52 present. The treasurer reported ~~and~~ balance of \$801 and all bills paid.

Dr. Gerhard Clausius was introduced to speak on Lincoln at Gettysburg. He introduced his message by giving the standards for all good speakers to be educational, inspirational, and entertaining. He measured up to these as well as did Lincoln.

Dr. Clausius presented the background leading up to Lincoln's Gettysburg address. The first two years of the Civil War had been fought in the South. In the spring of 1863 the war was carried into the north and the Battle at Gettysburg resulted. Men from all states participated in the battle and it was decided to make the battle field a national cemetery which was to be dedicated Nov. 19, 1863. Edward Everett of Mass. was a famous orator at the time and was engaged in September to deliver the oration of the day. He delivered a great and appropriate classical oration followed by a long prayer. President Lincoln, as if invited as an afterthought in November, followed this great orator. Lincoln had made a rough draft of his speech at the White House, and polished it at the Gettysburg House where he stopped. He had the burdens of the Presidency and the war on his mind as well as his personal grief for his son's death and his wife's illness. With restrained emotion, Dr. Clausius delivered the short Gettysburg Address -- only 270 words and taking only three minutes. Newspaper comments varied after the speech. Some thought it too short, few thought it would become famous, some saw him as a flag waver and sentimentalist.

In a question and answer period Dr. Clausius doubted there was any basis to the story of his writing it on an envelope on his way from Washington because of found references to his working on the speech at the White House earlier and because of five known copies of the speech. The phrase "under God" was added extemporaneously when delivered. The story "The Perfect Tribute" is often taken as truth but was only meant to be a fiction story when written.

PAGE 2 - Minutes, February 28, 1971.

Mr. Wilhelm announced that the Northern Division meeting of the Indiana Historical Society will meet in Hammond at St. Casimer's School next September 11 for an all day meeting when "Immigration" will be the theme and "Polish Immigration" in particular will be discussed.

Gordon Whitney announced the next meeting will be on March 28 at the Hammond Public Library at 2 p.m. when "Pete" Smidt will discuss his "Many lives."

The meeting adjourned at 2:30 for a social hour with coffee and cookies served.

Respectfully submitted,



Marjorie Sohl  
Secretary



HAMMOND HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
ATTENDANCE  
FEBRUARY 28, 1971

<u>NAME</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>
Dennis Fleming	953 Hirsch Blvd, Calumet City, Ill.
Cartha L. Barth	7348 Jefferson Ave, Hammond
John and Raydelle Herschberger	7231 Howard St, Hammond
Kurt C. Marx	4725 Henry Ave, Hammond
Maude Goodman	6411 Forest Ave, Hammond
Margaret Moore	257 Doty Street, Hammond,
Mr. and Mrs. J.B. Corns	1612 Holly, Munster
Emma Hausknecht	835 Morris St, Hammond
Ethel Andrews	1105 Summer St, Hammond
Ann Stevesand	918 Summer St, Hammond
Charlotte Kasten	231 Adelaide Place, Munster
Grace Parker	7523 Olcott Ave, Hammond
Reuben Pollock	429 - 170 th Court, Hammond
Nina Cravens	423 Florence St, Hammond
Gladys Hays	7031 Delmar Avenue, Hammond
Lida M. Owen	440 Highland St, Hammond
Dollie K. Bower	6916 Hohman Avenue, Hammond
Ruth Whitman	3003 - 97th Place, Apt.1A, Highland
Alice L. Brooks	8148 Meadow Lane, Munster
Joel Hershberger	7046 Monroe Ave, Hammond
David R. Brandt	7639 State Line, Munster
Lyle Szpuch	435 Spruce Street, Hammond
Robert F. Wilhelm	5933 Park Place, Hammond
Marion Isaacs	Route 9, Box 41, Valparaiso, Ind.
Mrs. Raymond Russell	527 Harrison Avenue, Rochester, Mich.
Mrs. Gordon Whitney	6806 Grand Avenue, Hammond
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Benait	1613 Holly Lane, Munster
Edward B. Hayward	6708 Madison Avenue, Hammond
Warren Reeder	30 Glendale Park, Hammond
John F. Wilhelm	6346 Hohman Avenue, Hammond
M. Torres	4321 Baltimore Avenue, Hammond
Ken Merry	642 - 118th St, Whiting, Ind.
Helen Hogue	242 Oakwood St. Hammond
Mrs. William Ford, Mike, Martha, and Dale Ford	1620 Myrtle Street, Whiting, Ind.
Mrs. O.H. Umbaugh	6640 Arizona Avenue, Hammond
Mrs. Ethel Wilhelm	6346 Hohman Avenue, Hammond
Dr. & Mrs. Gerhard Clausius	Belvidere, Illinois
Mr. & Mrs. E.C. Brickman	2131 Central Street, Evanston, Ill.
Virginia Eschenbach	8835 Northcote Avenue, Munster
Conchetta Geis	7337 White Oak, Hammond
Tedd E. Urice	6423 Kennedy Avenue, Hammond
Gordon Whitney	
Florence Cleveland	
Marjorie Sohl	



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[TRIBUNE Staff Photo by Roy Hall]

Fred Dedelow, 6936 Marshall Av., Hammond, one of the Little Red Schoolhouse's original pupils, takes a stroll to his alma mater. Now 88 years old, he lives only two blocks away from the schoolhouse.

## Citizens Pull Together to Rescue Schoolhouse

BY JUDY ROBERTS

Sectionalism is alive and well and living in Hessville, the old German - Polish neighborhood that constitutes the southeast quadrant of Hammond.

The citizens are up in arms but they are holding hands and pulling together to "Save the Little Red Schoolhouse" on the southwest corner of 169th Street and Kennedy Avenue.

The property has been sold to Humble Oil Company but the one-room building, which dates back to 1869 and presently houses a U. S. Post Office branch, is going to be moved to Hessville Park for restoration and preservation. It is considered one of the oldest buildings in Lake County.

### United into Brotherhood

The Hammond Historical Society, the Hessville Lions Club and the Hammond City Council, park district and schools have undertaken the project like one grand brotherhood, according to Gordon D. Whitney, president of the historical society and a member of the "Save the Little Red Schoolhouse" committee.

"We've saved nothing of our past out here and this is the chance for us to do it," Whitney said.

Hessville, which was a separate town until incorporated into Hammond in 1921, was founded in 1847 by Joseph Hess. Hess reportedly at age 24 walked the

23 miles from Chicago to the section of Lake County after purchasing it from the federal government.

"He was quite a colorful character," Whitney said of Hess. "He and several other fellows would provide the music for Saturday night dances in the little schoolhouse. On Sundays, it was used for church services for all faiths. Circuit-riding ministers from Tolleston [now Gary] gave the sermons," he said. Hess reportedly played the banjo and mouth organ at the same time.

### Was Campaign Headquarters

The schoolhouse provided education for grades one thru eight from the time it was built in 1869 until 1896, when a new school was built. In 1896 when William McKinley defeated William Jennings Bryan for the presidency, the schoolhouse served as the campaign headquarters for both parties. Being a Republican community, it sided with the winner, Whitney said. At that time there were about 125 residents.

Frederick W. Dedelow, 88, of 6936 Marshall Av., a member of the last class to graduate from the school, was the first elected councilman from Hessville, when it was incorporated into Hammond, in 1921. He still lives in the area. At that time there were 13 wards. Today there are six districts and three at-large councilmen.

Councilman Charles H. Blackman, who represents the

Hessville area, said, "This is strictly a community endeavor. It is the first such endeavor in the history of Hammond." He said that altho the city council is giving full support for the project, "It is in no way a political thing."

### Council Accepts Title

Whitney said the city council has accepted title to the building and will provide the insurance bond for moving the school to the park. The historical society will be responsible for restoring it, down to a well behind and desks inside equipped with McGuffey Readers. The park district will be responsible for upkeep of the building and grounds with the help of community service clubs.

It will cost about \$3,000 to move and about \$4,500 to restore. So far, less than \$1,000 has been collected. The one middle school and five elementary schools in Hessville will devote one week in April for gathering family contributions.

"We're making this a family project so children will feel they will have had a hand in saving a school," said Mrs. Ronald Hooper, 7129 Montana Av., who is coordinating school activities for the project. She said that Morton High School students and PTA are planning a fund-raising dance for adults in the community. Miss Gail Hiduke is heading up a six-student committee.



# HAMMOND HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEETING SUNDAY, MARCH 28, 1971

The Hammond Historical Society met on Sunday, March 28 at 2 p.m. at the Hammond Public Library Community Room. Several guests were introduced. President Gordon Whitney reported on the progress of the campaign to raise funds to move the Red School House in Hessville. The minutes of the February 28 meeting were read and approved. An attendance sheet was passed showing 44 present. Treasurer Warren Reeder reported a balance of \$839.90. He commented on the things which he had brought for display and for sale.

Gordon Whitney introduced the speaker of the day, Pete Smidt, the son part of Phil Smidt and Son as a hunter, fisherman and restaurateur. Those familiar with the peculiarities of the Calumet Region were amused at Mr. Smidt's beginning that for 60 years he had lived in Hammond, gotten his mail at the Roby post office, and had a Whiting phone number.

His father was born in 1873 in Pennsylvania and came to Roby in 1893. He stopped off to buy a pair of shoes and was hired by the Knickerbocker Ice Company where he worked for 20 years. He worked his way up to superintendent of all the ice operations for the company in Wisconsin, Illinois, Indiana and Ohio. They operated four ice houses in Roby. Ice was cut in Wolf Lake, stored in hugh ice houses and sent in railroad cars to Chicago.

In 1910 his father went into the fish business when he bought a boat livery business on Wolf Lake and operated the restaurant. The first building had only three tables and seated only 16 people. Their first dinners of fish or chicken were only 25¢. Frog legs and steak were added later. They served meat, boiled potatoes and a relish. Their famous potato salad today is an outgrowth of these boiled potatoes. The left overs on one day were made into potato salad the next. Pete got into the business with his father at the early age of 8 or 9 when he started renting boats for his father and mopping floors. The business will be 61 years old in May. His father had an eye for business. He lost a bet on the Chicago mayor's election of Robert Sweitzer vs William Hale Thompson in 1916 or 1917. To pay his bet he had to stand on his head for one minute in front of the restaurant every Sunday at 11 a.m. for six months. Five hundred people would gather to watch him and visit his 125 foot-long bar. In 1918 the channel was no longer navigable for the boats so they built a new and larger restaurant which they added on to several times until it burned down in 1946. Pete married in 1927 and then he and his wife managed the business. His father was in the business until 1930. When he was 70 years old, he started to paint and his son was his most severe critic.

Pete has always been interested in hunting since his father started him at 9 years old. He has been big game hunting in Canada, Alaska and the Yukon. He does not hunt just to be killing, but will not now shoot unless he can get something bigger than what he has. He said perch and frog legs are getting harder to get but the coho salmon has done much for Lake Michigan. Fifty-five million pounds of salmon were caught in Lake Erie last year despite the predictions that it is dead.

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PAGE 2 - MINUTES - MARCH 28, 1971.

A question period following Mr. Smidt's reminiscences brought out some interesting facts. Most of the workers in the early ice houses were Madison Street bums. Men were the first cooks in their restaurant but women started in 1915 and 1916 and have been doing it ever since.

The next meeting will be held at the Hammond Art Center, 5448 Hohman Avenue, to dedicate a placque marking the building as a landmark in Hammond. Mr. John Wilhelm will speak on the history of the building.

The meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m. with coffee and cookies served.

Respectfully submitted,



Marjorie Sohl, Secretary



HAMMOND HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
ATTENDANCE  
MARCH 28, 1971

<u>NAME</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>
Warren Reeder	30 Glendale Park, Hammond
F. Reed	618 - 169th Street, Hammond
Mr. & Mrs. Gordon Whitney	6806 Grand Avenue, Hammond
Mr. & Mrs. G. P. Davidson	8507 Baring Avenue, Munster
Florence Allman	239 - 169th Street, Hammond
Mrs. William A. Fuzy	6555 Forest Avenue, Hammond
Alice G. Fuzy	6555 Forest Avenue, Hammond
Norman Allen	7307 Baring Avenue, Hammond
Rudolph Todd	8222 Howard Avenue, Munster
Hope E. McKinney	7531 Maplewood Avenue, Hammond
Helen M. Woods	7531 Maplewood Avenue, Hammond
Edith M. O'Neil	28 Highland Street, Hammond
Julia Nelson	5946 Hohman Avenue, Hammond
Mrs. John Blair	528 Detroit Street, Hammond
Nina Cravens	423 Florence Street, Hammond
Helen Hogue	242 Oakwood Street, Hammond
Mary R. Peters	8428 Moraine Avenue, Munster
Mr. & Mrs. S. P. Wilson	1042 Cleveland Street, Hammond
Margaret Gunderson	6609 Jefferson Street, Hammond
Gladys Hays	7931 Delmar Street, Hammond
Laura Brown	5216 Howard Street, Hammond
Ruth Whitman	3003 - 97th Place, Highland
Ethel Wilhelm	6346 Hohman Avenue, Hammond
John F. Wilhelm	6346 Hohman Avenue, Hammond
E. Marguerite Harrison	16 Highland Street, Hammond
C. Ballard Harrison	16 Highland Street, Hammond
Robert E. Wilhelm	5933 Park Place, Hammond, Ind.
Marie C. Wilhelm	5933 Park Place, Hammond
Mildred Pretchett	7405 Meadow Lane, Hammond
Don Gavit	422 Waltham Street, Hammond
Harry Pretchett	7405 Meadow Lane, Hammond
Judge Frank A.J. Stodola	7326 Forest Avenue, Hammond
Frank Stodola	7326 Forest Avenue, Hammond
Edward B. Hayward	6708 Madison Avenue, Hammond
Marjorie Sohl	5615 Sohl Avenue, Hammond
J.C. Henning	1006 May Street, Hammond
Dollie K. Bower	6916 Hohman Avenue, Hammond
Mary J. Maguire	513 Lewis Street, Hammond
Mary J. Ruch	516 Waltham Street, Hammond
Peter C. Smidt	1205 North Calumet Avenue, Whiting
Lida M. Owen	440 Highland Street, Hammond

HAMMOND HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEETING  
SUNDAY, APRIL 18, 1971

The Hammond Historical Society met on Sunday, April 18, 1971 at the Northern Indiana Art Association Center at 5448 Hohman Ave. at 2 p.m. 42 members and friends signed the attendance sheet.

The President, Gordon Whitney, called the meeting to order and called upon Rev. Jack Barrell, Pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Hammond for the invocation. Mr. Whitney explained that we were meeting here today to pay homage to and to dedicate the Art Center as an historical building, the first such named in Hammond. He quoted Lincoln saying, "It is all together fitting and proper that we do this." He introduced honored guests from the Art Association, Mr. and Mrs. John Swanton and Mr. and Mrs. William Bachmann. Other people attending for the first time introduced themselves. Treasurer Warren Reeder announced that he would accept dues any time and listed publications which he had available today for sale.

John Wilhelm was introduced as the speaker of the day. He is closely associated with both the Art Association and the historical society and pointed out the common goal of the two organizations: the cultural custodians of our past and guardians of our future. He outlined some of the early history of the Art Association. In 1936 at the 12th annual Hoosier Art Exhibit at Marshall Field's in Chicago the seed was planted for the formation of the Northern Indiana Art Association when the Hammond chapter of Tri Kappa under Mrs. Lester Murphy's encouragement with Mr. and Mrs. Orville Haag and Mr. and Mrs. William Bachmann planned the local exhibit held at Edward C. Minas store. It was organized as the Hammond District Art Association with its first exhibit in 1936. In 1944 it became the Northern Indiana Art Patrons Association. For over 25 years Mr. and Mrs. Orville Haag have helped hold the organization together by assembling and organizing the annual exhibits. For 32 years and 25 exhibits, until 1968, Clarence Minas provided space in his store to display the annual exhibit, was responsible for the total prize solicitation and hosted the dinner meeting each fall. The 1969 exhibit was hung in the new Hammond Public Library and the 1970 and 1971 exhibits have been displayed in this, the Art Association's own building.

Mr. Wilhelm also traced the history of the Art Association building. The land was first bought from the state by Osborn of Terre Haute, sold to Ernst and Caroline Hohman. The First Presbyterian Church organized in 1891, bought the land in 1892 and built the building at a cost of \$6000. It was dedicated Jan. 22, 1893. In 1910 Mr. Wilhelm began his 60 years of continuous attendance at the Presbyterian Sunday School. Rev. John Parrett served as pastor there from 1915 to 1935. Fire damaged the main auditorium and steeple and the church built and moved to the northeast corner of Highland and Hohman in March, 1918. In 1923 the First Church of Christ Scientists paid \$4250 for the building and used it until the Art Patrons Association bought it from them in 1970. John Swanton sold the board on the feasibility of the building's purchase and Architect William Bachmann was primarily responsible for its conversion to an Art Center. Besides the annual Art Exhibit with over \$3000 in prizes each year to artists, the Art



PAGE 2 - MINUTES - APRIL 18, 1971.

Association encourages artists in their work and the sale of their works and is now purchasing and presenting a picture to an area high school each year.

With today's dedication of the placque on the outside of the Art Association building, the Hammond Historical Society hopes to so designate other historical landmarks in the future as it strives to preserve, publish and promote Hammond history.

The next meeting of the society was announced as the annual dinner meeting to be held May 18, 1971 at the First Christian Church of Hessville. The speaker will be Dr. R. G. McMurtry, Director of the Lincoln National Life Foundation of Ft. Wayne speaking on "Lincoln highlights in Indiana History." The meeting was closed with a prayer by Rev. Jack Barrell and coffee, tea and cookies were served while the guests enjoyed the exhibit hanging in the art center now.

Respectfully submitted,

*Marjorie Sohl*

Marjorie Sohl, Secretary

HAMMOND HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
ATTENDANCE  
APRIL 18, 1971

<u>Name</u>	<u>Address</u>
Warren Reeder	
Mr. & Mrs. W. J. Bachman	7111 State Line Avenue, Hammond
Mr. & Mrs. C.B. Harrison=	16 Highland Street, Hammond
Mr. & Mrs. V.O. Petty	1522 Parkview Avenue, Whiting
Mr. & Mrs. Robert O. Wilhelm	5933 Park Place, Hammond
J. Reese	6021 Hohman Avenue, Hammond
Mr. & Mrs. Gordon Whitney	6806 Grand Avenue, Hammond
Mr. Eugene A. Chlebowski, Jr.	6719 New Hampshire Avenue, Hammond
Mrs. Florence E. Cleveland	8948 White Oak Avenue, Munster,
Mr. & Mrs. Orval O. Haag	18 Russell Street, Hammond
Mr. & Mrs. Fred Lehr	5210 Pleasant Run, Indianapolis, Ind.
Norman Allen	7307 Baring Avenue, Hammond
Mrs. John Wilhelm	6346 Hohman Avenue, Hammond
Mrs. Florence D. Miller	6837 Wicker Avenue, Hammond
Eielah Lindner	6750 Hohman Avenue, Hammond
Mrs. Roscoe E. Woods	7531 Maplewood Avenue, Hammond
Hope E. McKinney	7531 Maplewood Avenue, Hammond
Donald F. Backe	738 - 173rd Street, Hammond
Thomas Kelley	2902 - 178th Street, Hammond, Apt. 20, Bld. 22
Mrs. Alice L. Brooks	8148 Meadow Lane, Munster
Mrs. Harold E. Miner	8254 Northcote Avenue, Munster
Conchetta Geis	7337 White Oak Avenue, Hammond
Ruth Whitman	3003 - 97th Place, Highland
Gladys Hays	7931 Delmar Avenue, Hammond
Laura Brown	5216 Howard Avenue, Hammond
Margaret M. Moore	251 Doty Street, Hammond
Mrs. N.V. Owen	440 Highland Street, Hammond
Charles E. LongIII	8033 State Line Avenue, Munster
Charles E. Long, Jr.	253 Lawndale Street, Hammond
John Swanton	7208 Forest Avenue, Hammond
Fred Dickson	7417 Knickerbocker Pkwy, Hammond
Mary J. Ruch	516 Waltham Street, Hammond
Mrs. Leroy B. Evans	6640 Hohman Avenue, Hammond
John F. Wilhelm	6346 Hohman Avenue, Hammond
Marjorie Sohl	5615 Sohl Avenue, Hammond



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THE TIMES

Friday, April 16, 1971

## Art center named historic landmark

Hammond Historical Society will designate the Art Center of the Northern Indiana Art Association at 5448 Hohman Ave., Hammond, as an historical landmark.

The special ceremony will take place at 2 p.m. Sunday and will be the first of its kind in Hammond.

Plans for the dedication were discussed at the election meeting of the Woman's Board of the association.

Officers elected were Mrs. Frank Warot, chairman; Mrs. Roger Connor, vice chairman; Mrs. R. D. Warner, recording secretary; Mrs. Richard Hinchion, corresponding secretary; and Mrs. Robert Baker, treasurer.

Mrs. Joseph Buda was chairman of the nominating committee.

Mrs. Henry Kowalczyk will serve as chairman of the nominating committee for 1972 with the assistance of Mrs. Norman Bateson and Mrs. Donald Lammering.

MRS. JOHN COCHRANE, chairman, announced a benefit luncheon will be sponsored by the board at noon Monday in the Art Center.

Program for the luncheon will be given by artist, Barbara Meeker, who will give an art demonstration.

Committee chairmen ap-

pointed at the meeting include Miss Janet Holley, special event; Mrs. Rex Hurt, used book sale; and Mrs. Lynn Wilke is chairman of weekend events at the center.

Mrs. Warot and Mrs. Connor are serving as co-chairmen of the Art Fair in Downtown Hammond on June 19 and 20.

Next board meeting will be at 9:30 a.m. May 10 in the Art Center.



## ART CENTER

NORTHERN INDIANA ART ASSOCIATION, INC.

THIS LANDMARK BUILDING WAS BUILT IN 1892 BY THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF HAMMOND. AFTER BEING DAMAGED BY FIRE IN 1916 IT WAS PURCHASED BY THE FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST SCIENTIST AND WAS OCCUPIED BY IT FOR THE NEXT 50 YEARS. THE BUILDING WAS THEN ACQUIRED BY THE NORTHERN INDIANA ART ASS'N., INC. AND WAS DEDICATED AS ITS ART CENTER IN 1970.

DESIGNATED AN HISTORICAL LANDMARK BUILDING  
BY THE HAMMOND HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

*Region Landmark*

The Northern Indiana Art Center, 5448 Hohman Ave., Hammond, has been designated a city landmark by the Hammond Historical Society. A plaque commemorating the recognition was dedicated during ceremonies last weekend.



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MINUTES OF THE 12th ANNUAL MEETING OF THE  
HAMMOND HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.  
TUESDAY, MAY 18, 1971

The twelfth annual meeting (eleventh dinner meeting) of the Hammond Historical Society, Inc. was held at the First Christian Church of Hessville, 6733 Alabama Avenue, Hammond, on Tuesday, May 18, 1971 at 6:30 p.m.

The president, Gordon Whitney, welcomed the guests and called upon Rev. John Snyder for the invocation. Dinner was served by the women of the church.

The business meeting was called to order at 7:30 by the president. Marjorie Sohl read the report of the last annual meeting, May 26, 1970 which was accepted. Warren Reeder presented the treasurer's annual report showing a balance of \$788.15. He commented that we gained 22 new members during the year.

The nominating committee report was presented by Mrs. Florence Cleveland, chairman, and consisted of the following slate of officers and directors:

President - Verlyn Mack  
1st Vice President - Mrs. Nina Cravens  
2nd Vice President - Miss Helen Hogue  
3rd Vice President - Derril Reed  
Secretary - Miss Marjorie Sohl  
Treasurer - Warren Reeder  
Speaker's Bureau - Gordon Whitney

DIRECTORS - Term expiring May, 1972  
Miss Alice Fuzy  
Mrs. Gladys Hays  
Mrs. Margaret Moore  
Mrs. Lida Owens  
Ray Williams

DIRECTORS - Term expiring May, 1973  
Miss Georgia Barnett  
Mrs. Alice Brooks  
Edward C. Minas III  
Robert Wilhelm  
Harry Wilson

DIRECTORS - Term expiring May, 1974  
Miss Florence Allman  
Miss Fern Arnold  
Donald Gavit  
Mrs. Edward Hayward  
Mrs. Ruth Whitman

DIRECTORS - Term expiring May, 1975  
Norman Allen  
Miss Charlotte Kasten  
Kurt Marx  
Mrs. Ann Stevesand  
Mrs. Ray Williams

Florence Cleveland, Chairman  
Marjorie Sohl  
John Wilhelm



Page 2 - Minutes - May 18, 1971

Mr. John Wilhelm moved that the slate of officers and directors presented by the nominating committee be accepted and that the secretary cast a unanimous ballot for their election. Mr. Marx seconded this motion which carried.

The president summarized the year's activities in his annual report. He called upon Warren Reeder for announcement of the annual tour to be made to Pullman, Illinois, a nearby model village, on Sunday, June 13. The bus will leave Waltham and Hohman at 1:30 p.m. Cost, \$1.00 per person. Warren Reeder presented Distinguished Service Awards to the last three presidents: Florence Cleveland, Marjorie Sohl, and Gordon Whitney. He also commented on the publications which he has on the table for sale tonight and pointed out that the cover of the program for tonight is a sample of the material included in the new publication of the society which will be off the press soon.

Mr. John Wilhelm paid tribute to three members of the society who have died during this year: Max Pearson, Dr. Robert Gillis, and Richard Weiss.

Rev. Jack Snyder gave a brief summary of the history of the 1st Christian Church. He came to Hammond in 1933 when he was 4 years old. He attended Irving, Morton and Hammond High, graduating in 1946. He has been a minister here for the past 14 years, since June, 1958. The church was started in 1918 as an offspring of the 1st Christian Church in Hammond. Its original location was at Kennedy and Martha, in a building built in one day. The church has been served by only three ministers, Rev. Carrier serving for 31 years. The 1st Christian Church of Lansing was started by 50 members from this church and the Flying Gardens Christian Church in East Hessville is developing as another satellite.

Dr. R. Gerald McMurtry was introduced as one of the top three Lincoln scholars of the world to speak on Lincoln Highlights in Indiana History. He is the director of the Lincoln National Life Foundation of Fort Wayne, Indiana. He was born in Elizabethtown, Ky. where Lincoln first lived. Lincoln, born in 1809, came to Indiana in 1816 and lived his formative years in Indiana until 1830. This was a formative period for Indiana also, for he came the year Indiana became a state and lived here thru Indiana's pioneer period when Indiana grew from about 63,000 people to 341,582. The Ohio River was the boundry between slavery and freedom and the Lincolns came to Indiana because of the slavery and land titles in Kentucky. These problems influenced the young Lincoln and molded his political thinking. He returned to Indiana several times:

1. Oct, 1844 to try to carry Indiana for Mr. Clay.
2. 1849 to secure a land office.
3. 1855 traveling from Springfield to Cincinnati, he had a humiliating experience as council in a law case and never wanted to return.
4. 1859 on visit to Indianapolis, Columbus and Dayton, he spoke for two hours before large crowds for abolishment of slavery and provoked the Lincoln-Douglas debates.
5. May 23, 1860 went thru Indiana on his way to New York to deliver the famous address that made him president.
6. Inaugral journey made a whistle stop thru Indiana appearing on the rear platform. Lawrenceberg was the last Indiana town in which he spoke. Indiana supported Lincoln at the polls.



Page 3 - Minutes - May 18, 1971

7. Funeral train traveled Richmond to Indianapolis to Lafayette, Michigan City and to Chicago and Springfield. Estimated one-third of the entire population attended some memorial for Lincoln. Indiana viewed the death as a great national calamity and memorialized Lincoln in its court records for the first and only time to do so. Indiana is now beginning to claim Lincoln as one of its greatest citizens.

The meeting adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Marjorie Sohl, Secretary



# THE HAMMOND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

## FINANCIAL REPORT, May 1st, 1970 to April 30th, 1971

### OFFICERS

Mrs. Mary R. Peters  
PRESIDENT  
Mrs. Harry H. Wilson  
1ST VICE PRES.  
Henry J. Schmueser  
2ND VICE PRES.  
Henry O. Reissig  
3RD VICE PRES.  
Miss Marjorie Sohl  
SECRETARY  
Warren A. Reeder  
TREASURER

BALANCE AS OF May 1st, 1970 ..... \$679.28

### INCOME:

Dues .....	\$ 367.00	
Annual Dinner .....	182.00	
Tour .....	26.00	
Donations .....	24.00	
Miscellaneous .....	10.35	
TOTAL .....		609.35

### EXPENSES:

Postage .....	\$ 84.00	
Newsletter .....	65.65	
Refreshments .....	25.35	
Dinner .....	154.99	
Annual Tour .....	37.50	
Ind. Art Patrons Assn. ..	50.00	
(plaque donation)		
A.A.S.L.H. (dues) .....	8.00	
(2 booklets) .....	3.50	
Donation (Dr. Clausius) .	25.00	
Advertising (1904 book) .	14.24	
Phone .....	1.44	
Secretary of State .....	1.00	
(file corporate report)		
Miscellaneous .....	4.08	
Printing - Photographic ..	25.73	
TOTAL .....		500.48

BALANCE AS OF APRIL 30th, 1971 ..... \$ 788.15

### DIRECTORS

Miss Georgia Barnett  
Walter A. Bell  
Mrs. Fred W. Carter  
Henry C. Fehlberg  
Mrs. Marie M. Hanlon  
Mrs. Bertha Kleihege  
E. Clarence Minas  
Edward C. Minas III  
Mrs. Lida M. Owen  
Miss Mildred Peehl  
Mrs. Anna B. Perry  
Joseph Piekarczyk  
Delbert L. Purkey  
Elmer Rose  
Mrs. P. Q. Row  
Mrs. Rose K. Scherer  
Miss Frances Taylor  
Ruth B. Whitman  
Harry H. Wilson  
Mrs. Roscoe E. Woods

*Warren A. Reeder, Jr.*

Warren A. Reeder, Jr.  
Treasurer





NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT  
OFFICERS AND BOARD  
HAMMOND HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
1971 - 1972

President - Verlyn Mack  
1st Vice President - Mrs. Nina Cravens  
2nd Vice President - Miss Helen Hogue  
3rd Vice President - Derril Reed  
Secretary - Miss Marjorie Sohl  
Treasurer - Warren Reeder  
Speaker's Bureau - Gordon Whitney

DIRECTORS - Term expiring May, 1972  
Miss Alice Fuzy  
Mrs. Gladys Hays  
Mrs. Margaret Moore  
Mrs. Lida Owens  
Ray Williams

DIRECTORS - Term expiring May, 1973  
Miss Georgia Barnett  
Mrs. Alice Brooks  
Edward C. Minas III  
Robert Wilhelm  
Harry Wilson

DIRECTORS - Term expiring May, 1974  
Miss Florence Allman  
Miss Fern Arnold  
Donald Gavit  
Mrs. Edward Hayward  
Mrs. Ruth Whitman

DIRECTORS - Term expiring May, 1975  
Norman Allen  
Miss Charlotte Kasten  
Kurt Marx  
Mrs. Ann Stevesand  
Mrs. Ray Williams

Florence Cleveland, Chairman  
Marjorie Sohl  
John Wilhelm

# **The Hammond Historical Society**

## **PRESIDENTS**



**John F. Wilhelm**  
1960



**George Nelson**  
1964



**Walter A. Bell (deceased)**  
1968



**Warren A. Reeder, Jr.**  
1961



**Anton Tapper (deceased)**  
1965



**Florence Hammond Cleveland**  
1969



**Edward B. Hayward**  
1962



**Mary Ruschlie Peters**  
1966



**Marjorie Sohl**  
1970



**Dollie Knotts Bower**  
1963



**Jean Blythe Wilson**  
1967



**Gordon Whitney**  
1971

## **11TH ANNUAL MEETING**

Dinner 6:30 p. m. — May 18, 1971

**1ST CHURCH OF CHRIST** — 6733 Alabama Avenue — Hammond, Indiana  
*Christian Church*



HAMMOND HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
11th ANNUAL DINNER MEETING  
May 18, 1971 6:30 p.m.

~~First Church of Christ~~ *Christian Church of Hessville*  
6733 Alabama Avenue  
Hammond, Indiana

WELCOME ..... Mr. Gordon Whitney  
INVOCATION ..... Rev. John A. Snyder  
DINNER ..... Women of the Church  
INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

BUSINESS MEETING AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Minutes of May 26, 1970  
Miss Marjorie Sohl, Secretary

Treasurer's Annual Report  
Mr. Warren Reeder, Jr., Treasurer

Report of Nominating Committee  
Mrs. Florence Cleveland, Chairman

President's Annual Report  
Mr. Gordon Whitney, President

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MEMORIAL SERVICE ..... Mr. John F. Wilhelm  
Mr. Max Pearson, Dr. Robert Gillis, Richard Weis

HISTORY OF FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST..... Rev. Snyder  
SPEAKER ..... Dr. R. Gerald McMurtry  
"Lincoln Highlights in Indiana History"

ADJOURNMENT

2107  
OFFICERS 1970 - 1971

President ..... Mr. Gordon Whitney  
1st Vice President ..... Mr. Thomas McKinney  
2nd Vice President ..... Mrs. Delbert Purkey  
3rd Vice President ..... Mr. Walter Gooley  
4th Vice President..... Mrs. Stella Miner  
Secretary..... Miss Marjorie Sohl  
Treasurer ..... Mr. Warren Reeder, Jr.

DIRECTORS

Mr. Norman Allen	Mr. Kurt Marx
Miss Florence Allman	Mr. Edward Minas, III
Miss Fern Arnold	Mrs. Margaret Moore
Miss Georgia Barnett	Mrs. Lida Owen
Mrs. Alice Brooks	Mr. Max Pearson
Mrs. Nina Cravens	Mr. Harry Reissig
Miss Alice Fuzy	Mrs. Anna Stevesand
Miss Helen Hogue	Mrs. Ruth Whitman
Miss Charlotte Kasten	Mr. Ray G. Williams
Mr. Verlyn Mack	Mr. Harry Wilson

PAST PRESIDENTS

Mr. John F. Wilhelm	1959-60
Mr. Warren Reeder, Jr.	1960-61
Mr. Edward B. Hayward	1961-62
Mrs. Vincent Bower	1962-63
Mr. George Nelson	1963-64
Mr. Anton Tapper (Deceased)	1964-65
Mrs. Mary Peters	1965-66
Mrs. Harry Wilson	1966-67
Mr. Walter Bell (Deceased)	1967-68
Mrs. Henry Cleveland	1968-69
Miss Marjorie Sohl	1969-70

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HAMMOND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Eleventh Annual Dinner  
Tuesday, May 18, 1971

Church of Christ  
6733 Alabama Avenue  
Hammond, Indiana

6:30 P.M.

Donation \$3.75



HAMMOND HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
ATTENDANCE  
TUESDAY, MAY 18, 1971

<u>NAME</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>
Mrs. William Rosenbaum,	918 Carroll Street, Hammond
Mr. & Mrs. R. Paul Bartolini	624 North Oakwood Avenue, Griffith
Robert L. Rosenbaum	918 Carroll Street, Hammond
Mrs. Vincent Bower	6916 Hohman Avenue, Hammond
Miss Mary Maguire	513 Lewis Street, Hammond
Mrs. O. H. Umbaugh	6640 Arizona Avenue, Hammond
Mrs. Clark Gardner	9607 O'Day Drive, Highland
Mrs. Mary Ruschli Peters	8428 Moraine Avenue, Munster
Miss Ruth Arnold	8806 Woodward, Highland
Mrs. Florence Cleveland	8948 White Oak Avenue, Munster
Miss Fern Arnold	8806 Woodward, Highland
Mrs. William Kowalisyn	221 - 173rd Place, Hammond
John Kowalisyn	221 - 173rd Place, Hammond
Mrs. George L. Bocken	7042 Kennedy Avenue, Hammond
George L. Bocken	7042 Kennedy Avenue, Hammond
Mr. and Mrs. K.T. Williams	5945 Hyslop Place, Hammond
Nina S. Cravens	423 Florence Street, Hammond
Mrs. E. B. Hayward	6708 Madison Avenue, Hammond
Ethel Wilhelm	6346 Hohman Avenue, Hammond
Mrs. Warren Reeder	30 Glendale Park, Hammond
Rocky Reeder	30 Glendale Park, Hammond
Edward B. Hayward	6708 Madison Avenue, Hammond
John F. Wilhelm	6346 Hohman Avenue, Hammond
Grace E. Mack	14 Ruth Street, Hammond
Verlyn Mack	14 Ruth Street, Hammond
Marilyn Whitney	6806 Grand Avenue, Hammond
Gordon Whitney	6806 Grand Avenue, Hammond
R. Gerald McMurtry	910 W. Rudisell, Fort Wayne, Ind.
W. A. Reeder	30 Glendale Park, Hammond
John A. Snyder	6737 Alabama Avenue, Hammond
Donald F. Backe	738 - 173rd Street, Hammond
Joyce Ann Sovinski	6331 Madison Avenue, Hammond
Linda Reeder	30 Glendale Park, Hammond
Marion Isaacs	R.R. 9, Box 41, Valparaiso, Ind.
Olive Isaacs	R.R. 9, Box 41, Valparaiso, Ind.
Donald E. Gavit	422 Waltham Street, Hammond
Robert E. Wilhelm	5933 Park Place, Hammond
William Rosenbaum	918 Carroll Street, Hammond
Helen Hogue	242 Oakwood Street, Hammond
Robert & Elaine Madison	6311 Garfield Avenue, Hammond
Eugene Chlebowsky, Jr.	6719 New Hampshire Avenue, Hammond
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Benoit	1613 Holly Street, Munster
Miss Katherine Williams	8801 Schneider Ave, Apt. 14, Highland
Mrs. Pearl Schuler	8254 Crestwood Avenue, Munster
Norman Allen	7307 Baring Parkway, Hammond
Emma Hausknecht	835 Morris Street, Hammond
Charlotte Kasten	221 Adelaide Place, Munster
Grace Parker	7523 Olcott Avenue, Hammond
Alma Rohde	7042 Kennedy Avenue, Hammond
Ann Stevesand	918 Summer Blvd, Hammond
Mr. & Mrs. Kurt Marx	4725 Henry Avenue, Hammond
Marjorie Sohl	5615 Sohl Avenue, Hammond



Board of Directors, Hammond Historical Society  
Minutes of Meeting Held July 7, 1971


The meeting was called to order at 1:35 p.m. in the Calumet Room, Main Library by President Verlyn P. Mack. A list of other officers and directors present is attached.

1. Gordon Whitney reported that the Little Red School House project was temporarily at a stand still because of lack of agreement as to a location. He moved that the Society donate fifty dollars to this project to be used when the location was settled. Seconded by John Wilhelm. Carried.
2. Warren Reeder announced that the Society had been offered a free booth at the County Fair, August 21-28 from 1:00 to 8:00 p.m. daily. It was agreed to accept and to seek volunteers to man the booth from membership. Volunteers are provided free passes to the Fair.
3. The Society has been invited to send a representative to a meeting at the County Court House on July 15 to discuss the presentation of county records.
4. Verlyn Mack reported that Mrs. Mack is in charge of the disposal of Hammond City records at City Hall and the old city barns on Truman Street and that he and Mr. Reeder were saving those records of value to the Society.
5. The president asked for program suggestions for meeting's of the Society, September through May. Speakers and topics suggested were: Vern Anderson, former Mayor; Ed Phrommer, Tom McKinney speaking on early Hammond theaters; Walt Millikan speaking on early fish and game organizations and athletic clubs; George Pokos speaking on the history of the Garfield Lodge of Hammond; a speaker on the history of Hammond schools; Pete Shrum; Bayless Paddack, Clarence Huber and George Burns. George E. Davis who speaks on James Whitcomb Riley and reads his poems was suggested for the annual meeting. Mr. Montgomery who is in charge of the Indiana Historical Society Junior Historian's was also suggested as a speaker.
6. Hubert Hawkins, Executive Secretary of the Indiana Historical Society, announced that the fourth annual Northern Indiana History Conference will be held in Hammond on Saturday, September 11, 1971 at St. Casimirs Church. The Church ladies will provide a luncheon and dinner of Polish food. Tentative program includes Congressman Ray Madden speaking on the Katyn Forest Massacre, Father Gerlock of St. Joseph College speaking on the St. Joseph Indian School, Warren Reeder speaking on a topic to be announced, and Professor Cook of Indiana State University speaking on Migration Patterns in Indiana. There will be a tour of the Calumet Area from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. Hammond Historical Society will



provide coffee for the registration hour. Marjorie Sohl, Secretary of the Hammond Historical Society will accept advance reservations. Wednesday by 12:00 noon is the cut off time for receiving of reservations. Tickets will be held for registrants to pick up at registration desk. Registration Desk will be staffed by at least one person from the Indiana Historical Society and one from the Hammond Historical Society.

7. John Wilhelm proposed that five free Hammond Historical Society memberships be given to each Hammond school and that a special mailing be made to each principal inviting the school to select recipients of the free student memberships. Student members would be invited to each meeting and some special programs aimed at youth would be provided. The Board approved of the idea to be started with the September meeting.
8. It was suggested that the Hammond Historical Society establish a scholarship to be awarded each year to the most apt High School student in history.

  
 Edward B. Hayward  
 Secretary pro tem

HAMMOND HISTORICAL SOCIETY - DIRECTORS MEETING  
July 7, 1971

Don Gavit

Norman Allen

Verlyn C. Mack

Nina S. Cravens

Ruth Whitman

Gladys Hays

Georgia Barnett

Hubert H. Hawkins

Warren Reeder

Gordon Whitney

Margaret Moore

Charlotte Kasten

Ann Stevesand

F. Derril Reed

Florence Cleveland

Leona Williams

Fern Arnold

E.B. Hayward

John F. Wilhelm





*Historians discuss the area's 'good ole days.'*

## History Buffs Hear Lake County Folklore, Legends

**HAMMOND** — The story of a woman whose husband threw \$1 million at her feet was one of the anecdotes told at Saturday's fourth annual meeting of the Northern Indiana History Conference.

Sponsored by the Hammond Historical Society, the all-day conference brought together history buffs from northern Indiana to learn more about local lore.

The meeting was held at St.

Casimir's Church at Huehn and Johnson Avenues.

Various talks and discussions during the morning focused on the early history of the area.

**WARREN** Reeder of the Hammond Historical Society sketched a bit of old Hammond for the afternoon audience with stories about "characters" who lived in the city around the turn of the century.

One of Reeder's stories concerned Frank Betz, who built a large surgical supply business around 1900.

When he was a young man, Betz promised his wife he would lay \$1 million at her feet.

After several years of marriage, and owning a most successful business, Betz went to the bank where he kept his money and demanded one million dollars in cash.

The tellers were astounded but counted out the money. He took the pile of cash home, and threw it at his wife's feet.

No one recorded Mrs. Betz's reaction.

**ANOTHER** interesting story concerned the area's first hippie—Alice Grey.

Miss Grey, also known as Diana of the Dunes, gave up city life and lived at Ogden Dunes at the turn of the century.

Passengers in boats cruising by the dunes hoped to catch a glimpse of Miss Grey taking a dip in the nude.

After such tales, the history buffs took a bus trip of historic sites in the area.

Rep. Raymond J. Madden, D., Ind., was the guest speaker at the gathering's banquet in the evening.

**MADDEN** spoke about the still unsolved slaughter of 4,243 Polish army officers in the Katyn Forest in 1940.

Though the slaughter has never been officially solved, Madden said strong evidence places the blame on a special group of Soviet troops.

The Soviets killed the Polish officers who have been described as the cream of the army, government and culture of Poland at the time, so the final Communist takeover of Poland could be speedily accomplished, Madden said.



4th ANNUAL N. INDIANA HISTORY CONFERENCE  
INDIANA HISTORICAL SOCIETY and  
HAMMOND HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
Saturday, September 11, 1971  
St. Casimir's Hall, 4329 Cameron Ave.  
Hammond, Indiana

Registration-Coffee Hour - 9:30  
Morning program - 10 A.M.  
Lunch - 12 noon  
Afternoon program - 1 P.M.  
Historical bus tour - 2:45 P.M.  
\$3.50

201

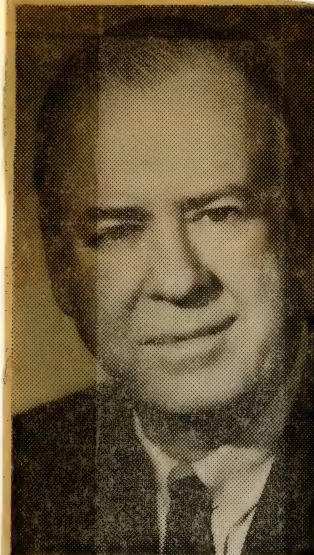
4th ANNUAL N. INDIANA HISTORY CONFERENCE  
INDIANA HISTORICAL SOCIETY and  
HAMMOND HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
Saturday, September 11, 1971  
St. Casimir's Hall, 4329 Cameron Ave.  
Hammond, Indiana

Banquet - 5:30 P.M.  
Feature Speaker  
Hon. Ray J. Madden  
"The Katyn Forest Massacre"  
\$4.00

201

COMPLETE DAY \$6.50

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R. GERALD McMURTRY  
... key speaker

## Historical Society Will Meet

HAMMOND—Dr. R. Gerald McMurtry of the Lincoln National Life Foundation will be the speaker at the Hammond Historical Society's annual banquet May 18.

The banquet will be held at the First Church of Christ, 6733 Alabama, at 6:30 p.m. It is open to the public.

McMurtry's topic will be "Highlights of Lincoln in Indiana." He will speak on the formative years of Lincoln's life in Indiana, Society President Gordon Whitney said.

"McMurtry is director of the Foundation collection of the greatest amount of Lincolniana in the world at Ft. Wayne," Whitney said.

He is considered one of the three top Lincoln scholars in the United States.

The Rev. John Snyder, pastor of the church, will present a history of the church.

Information about reservations is available from Marjorie Sohl, secretary at the Main Public Library.



FOURTH NORTHERN INDIANA HISTORY CONFERENCE  
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 1971

The fall activities of the Hammond Historical Society began by the Society joining the Indiana Historical Society in sponsoring the Fourth Northern Indiana History Conference on Saturday, September 11, 1971 at St. Casimir's Catholic Church, 4329 Cameron Avenue, Hammond.

The program for the day is attached. The speakers were recorded on tape which is on file in the Calumet Room of the Hammond Public Library. The feature speaker of the day at the evening dinner meeting was Rep. Ray J. Madden who spoke from his experience on the committee in Congress investigating the Katyn Forest Massacre.

A cateress from the church prepared and served both a lunch and dinner of traditional Polish foods, serving 99 at lunch and 76 at dinner.

The Hammond Historical Society provided two buses to take 71 on a tour of Hammond, Whiting and East Chicago historical sites for two and one half hours. The highlight of the tour for many was a stop at Hammond's lake front to see the waves rolling in. Attached is an itinerary of the tour.

Also attached is a list of local members and friends attending.

Respectfully submitted,

*Marjorie Sohl, Secretary*  
Marjorie Sohl, Secretary

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#### FOURTH NORTHERN INDIANA HISTORY CONFERENCE

The fourth Northern Indiana History Conference will be held at Hammond on Saturday, September 11. You are warmly invited to come:

- 9:30 a. m.: registration and coffee, St. Casimir's Catholic Church
  - 10:00 a. m.: Father Dominic Gerlach, St. Joseph's College, "St. Joseph's Indian Normal School."
  - 11:00 a. m.: G. David Koch, Indiana State University, "Pioneer Migration Patterns."
  - 12:00 m.: Luncheon
  - 1:00 p. m.: Richard McAllister, "The Potawatomi."
  - 2:00 p. m.: Warren A. Reeder, Hammond Historical Society, "Some Characters I Never Knew."
  - 2:45 p. m.: Bus tour of points of historical interest
  - 5:30 p. m.: Dinner
- dinner speaker: Ray J. Madden, MC, "The Katyn Forest Massacre."

The "package price" of \$6.50 includes registration, coffee hour, all programs and two meals. In view of the excellence of the program and the gustatory experience of expertly prepared Polish cuisine, it constitutes an extraordinary bargain. If, however, you cannot attend the entire program, you may make reservation for lunch and the pre-dinner programs for \$3.50. Or you may attend the dinner and hear Congressman Madden for \$4.00. The bus tour is open to conference registrants on a first reservation basis through the courtesy of the Hammond Historical Society. Reservations must be received by Wednesday, September 8. Refunds will not be practical. Late reservations cannot be honored.

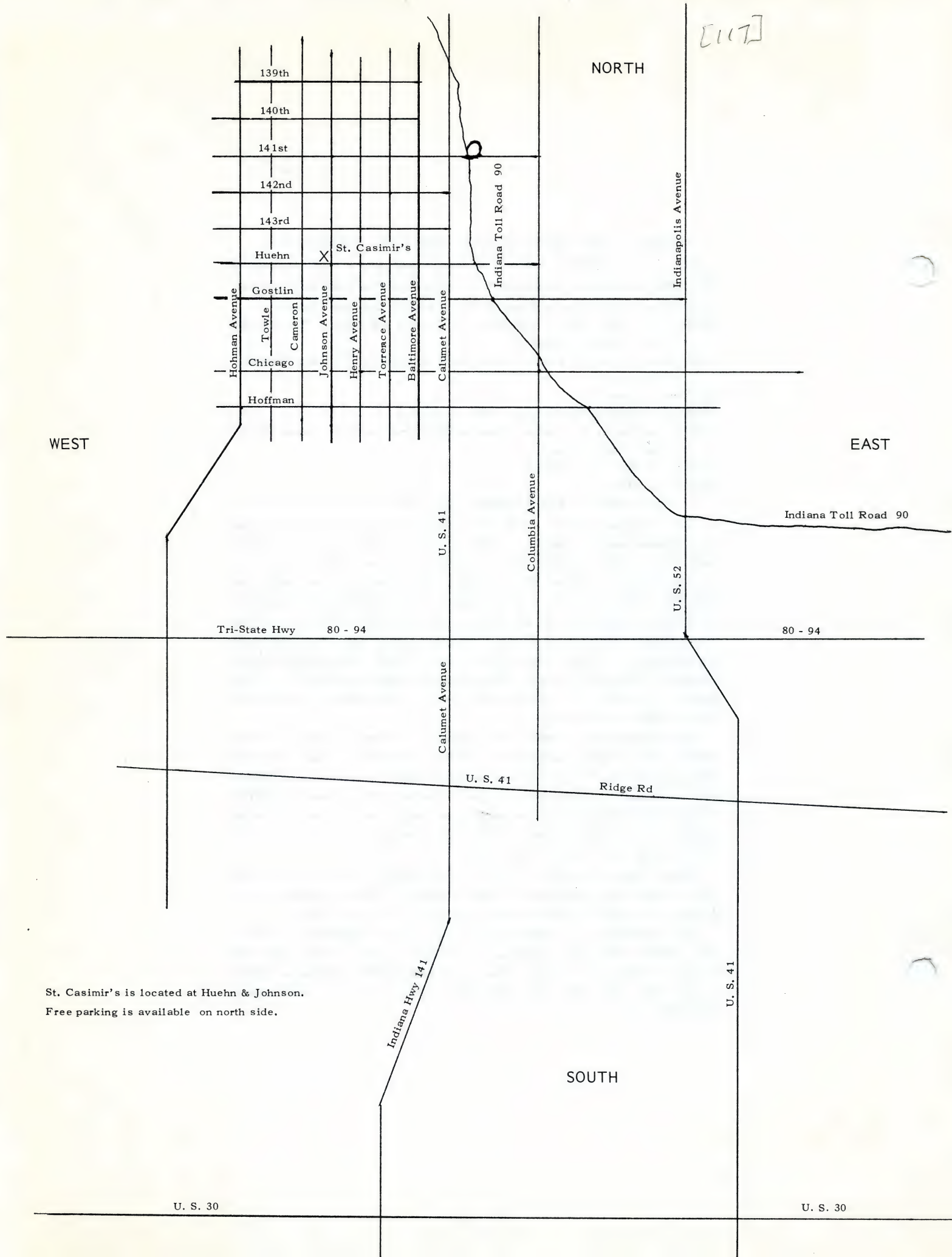
Send reservations to Mrs. Alice Johnson, Indiana Historical Society, 140 N. Senate Avenue, Indianapolis 46204; or Miss Marjorie Sohl, Hammond Historical Society, 566 State Street, Hammond 46320. Telephone reservations will be accepted as late as September 8 (Indianapolis number - 633-5277. Tickets may be claimed at the registration desk. Please make all checks payable to the Indiana Historical Society. A helpful map will be sent to those making reservation by September 8.

The Conference will be held at St. Casimir's Church at the corner of Huehn and Johnson in North Hammond. The sponsors are indebted to Father Balczun for his hospitality and cooperation.

The Conference is sponsored by the Indiana Historical Society, the Indiana Historical Bureau, the Indiana State Library and the Hammond Historical Society. Everyone interested in Indiana history is welcome. We shall look forward to seeing you at Hammond on September 11.



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NORTH

WEST

EAST

Tri-State Hwy 80 - 94

80 - 94

U. S. 41

Columbia Avenue

Calumet Avenue

U. S. 41

Ridge Rd

Indiana Hwy 141

SOUTH

U. S. 30

U. S. 30

St. Casimir's is located at Huehn & Johnson.  
Free parking is available on north side.

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THE HAMMOND HISTORICAL SOCIETY PRESENTS

AN HISTORIC TOUR OF  
HAMMOND - WHITING - EAST CHICAGO

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Northern Division, Indiana Historical Society

September 11, 1971

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1. West from Church to Cameron. Entrance of St. Casimir's Church.
2. North on Cameron to 143rd. Lincoln School.
3. West on 143rd to Towle. Hammond was almost named after Mr. Towle.
4. North on Towle to 137th.
5. West on 137th to Hohman. Old Grueners Grove on Wolf Lake - now Angelos.
6. South on Hohman to Hoffman. Carmelite Home for Boys, Gostlin St., 1912 boundary. South Shore R.R., Wabash R. R. -- East Chicago Cut-off B & O. C. T., Penn. Seal Test -- old Hohman Inn site of 1851.
7. South on Hohman to Willow Court. Indian Burial Ground. Turner Park Renewal, Old Hammond rooming houses across ditch. Old City Hall and Barns. 6 railroads - old center of Hammond.
8. West on Willow Court to State Line. Old packing house site, 1869 refrigerator Car. Carlton Hotel: Sears meets Roebuck. Professional football Halfway House at State Line corner: built in two states.
9. State Line south to Sibley. Calumet City (West Hammond) Drackert Grove and house - oldest in Hammond.
10. Sibley east to Sohl Ave. Rimbach 5 acres and cottages. Business District - banks, railroad yards. Minas & Goldblatts. 1st Baptist Church -- largest S.S. in world. Hammond Public Library. All Saints Church.
11. South on Sohl to Highland. Erie Yards. Sohl Farm. Walter - Claude - Alice - Beall. Hammond Tech. Hammond High. Nickel Plate Locomotive.
12. West on Highland across tracks and north sharp right - 2 streets over to Waltham and west on Waltham to Hohman. Lake Mich. Shoreline - swamp. Harrison Park -- pro football -- Knute Rockne. Baseball: Babe Ruth.



13. South on Hohman to Coolidge. 1st Pres. Church. Episcopal Church. Glendale Park. Cadillac dealer. Carley Straube Piano, Kenwood School, Oak Hill Cemetery. 165th end of Hammond in 1923. Sand dune area. Church row and elite homes of 1920's.
14. West on Coolidge to Forest. Fine homes.
15. South on Forest to 173rd. Minas home.
16. 173rd east to Knickerbocker. Monon Yards. Edison School. Calumet Ave. Hammond Housing Authority. Saxony -- Woodrow Wilson. Woodmar.
17. Knickerbocker south to 171st.
18. 171st east to Wicker. Purdue University.
19. Wicker North to 169th.
20. 169th east to Kennedy. Little Red Schoolhouse. Hessville Business District. Concordia Church. Sand Ridge. Hess story.
21. South on Kennedy to 173rd St.
22. East on 173rd to Grand Avenue. Old Black Oak Road.
23. North on Grand to 169th. Scott School. Howard Library. Morton High School. Paper City. Garbage Dump. Miller School. Briar East Development.
24. North on Cline to 5th Avenue (Michigan Ave.) Train Wreck.
25. West on 5th Ave. (Michigan) to Indianapolis Boulevard. Formerly Forsythe -- "longest bridge in world over dry land". Shell Refinery, E. C. Industry. Indian encampment.
26. North on Indianapolis to Calumet Ave. through East Chicago and Whiting. Grand Calumet River. Sweet and Japanese Lotus Lilies grew here.
27. Grand Calumet Ave. North to Hammond Beach. Chicago - Gary. Phil Smidt Restaurant. Fish houses. Robertsdale ( $\frac{1}{2}$  of Hammond). Amusement Park - Lever Brothers.
28. South on Calumet to 142nd. Ice houses and their importance. Whiting refineries. Shallow lakes. Steel and oil. Berries and wood.
29. East on 142nd Street to Johnson.
30. Johnson south to St. Casimir's. Germans and Polish.

## LOCAL ATTENDANCE, SEPT. 11, 1971

Verlyn Mack  
Mrs. Verlyn Mack  
Warren Reeder  
Florence Cleveland  
Eugene Chlebowski  
Marion Isaacs, Valpariso  
Mrs. Marion Isaacs, Valporiso  
Henry Hastings, Gary  
Anthony Betustak, Sr.  
Eleanor Sulcer  
Margaret Gunderson  
Joseph Piekarczyk  
Marcella Ciucki  
Jim Howe, Gary  
Ivan Larson, Gary  
Charlotte Kasten  
Anna K. Bower  
Stella Miner  
Edward B. Hayward  
Nina Cravens  
Mrs. Mary Peters  
Delbert Purkey  
Connie Purkey  
Alice Brooks  
F. Derril Reed  
Norris Coombs, Chesterton  
Everett Tidaback, Chesterton  
Lida Owen  
Ruth Whitman  
Marjorie Sohl  
Gladys Hays  
Katherine Williams  
Geraldine Bartels  
Mr. & Mrs. John Wilhelm  
Mr. & Mrs. Kurt Marx  
Mayor & Mrs. Joseph Klen  
Emma Hausknecht  
Mrs. Martha Krueger  
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Wilhelm  
Mary J. Maguire  
E. R. Nelson  
Wanda Kolodziej  
Frank Kolodziej  
Mrs. Wanda Kolodziej  
Frank G. Kolodziej  
Sophie Mis  
Rose Imrich  
Jule Bell  
Ted Lampa  
Don Kubacki  
Henry Swiontek  
Father Balczum



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HAMMOND HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 24, 1971

The Hammond Historical Society met at 2 p.m. on Sunday, October 24, 1971 at the Hammond Public Library. An attendance list indicated 24 people present.

President Verlyn Mack introduced the two speakers: Mr. Clarence J. Huber, Director of the C.J. Huber Funeral Home, 722 - 165th Street, Hammond and Mr. Bayless C. Paddack, President of Emmerling-Paddack Chapel, Inc., 6020 Hohman Avenue, Hammond. George A. Burns of Burns Funeral Home, 5840 Hohman Avenue, was unable to attend.

Clarence Huber spoke first relating his early life. He was born on Hanover Street, moved to Truman Street as a youngster and attended Hammond High School. He played for vaudeville for 3½ years and played a violin in the orchestra for silent films. He showed an early interest in funeral directing, conducting funerals for all the neighborhood birds that died. He often visited his Uncle John's funeral establishment at 95 State Street. His father came to Hammond from Crown Point at the age of 12 and worked for his brother John. At that time funerals were all held in the homes and the undertakers prepared the body in the home before the service. Later a law required this work to be done in the funeral home. The funeral director hired a hack to transport people to the funeral. Thirty years ago Clarence Huber started his own business at the 165th Street address. Henry Huber took over John Huber's business which moved to East Chicago.

Bayless Paddack began by showing an advertisement from the First Methodist Church History and some funeral charges from an early ledger of 25¢ for sprinkling the street and \$3.00 for shoeing a horse. The Emmerling Funeral Home was first located on Hohman Avenue about at Fayette. In a few years it moved around the corner on to Sibley. In 1920 it located at Clinton and Hohman. In 1933 Mr. Emmerling died and since then the business has been conducted by Mrs. Emmerling and her son-in-law, Bayless Paddack. Early undertakers worked hard. Their caskets were delivered by express and then were decorated by hand by the undertaker. Funeral prices, like everything else, have increased greatly. He had a bill which showed a charge of \$19.50 for services in 1899. Thirty years ago a hearse could be purchased for about \$3,000. Now one costs closer to \$14,000. He indicated that there was much personal satisfaction in the funeral business because one was able to help people at a time when they needed it.

In a question and answer period, both speakers answered several questions put to them. They indicated that funeral directors are great practical jokers. The practice of eating after funerals stems from the long, hard work of running the rig for a funeral and the need to stop on the way home to eat. Doctors after the Civil War were the first to do arterial embalming before special training schools were established to train men. Traditional colors used at funerals have been white horses or hearses for young people and black for old; white gloves for children and ladies and gray for men. Formerly the funeral procession went past the deceased person's home and paused briefly. Police have now ruled this out. Early funerals in East Hammond would carry the casket to the cemetery in a procession led by a band.

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Both men had a musical background, Mr. Huber being a violinist and still playing, now with the Gary-IU Northwest Symphony and Mr. Paddock being a drummer for stock companies. Mr. Huber worked for 34 years as the chairman of the brotherhood of the Musicians' Union.

The treasurer reported a balance of \$584.89 and announced he would accept dues from any wishing to pay. The next meeting was announced for Sunday, November 28 at the Hammond Public Library. Doughnuts and coffee and tea were served for an informal hour.

Respectfully submitted,

*Marjorie Sohl, Secretary*  
Marjorie Sohl, Secretary



HAMMOND HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
ATTENDANCE  
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 24, 1971

<u>NAME</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>
Marjorie Sohl	5615 Sohl Avenue, Hammond
Mary R. Peters	8428 Moraine Avenue, Munster
Isabel Webb	7019 Northcote Avenue, Hammond
Florence Cleveland	8948 White Oak Avenue, Munster
Fern Arnold	8806 Woodward Avenue, Highland
Katherine Williams	8801 Schneider Avenue, Apt. 14, Highland
Nina Cravens	423 Florence Street, Hammond
Ruth Whitman	3003 - 97th Place, Apt. 1A, Highland
Laura Brown	5216 Howard Avenue, Hammond
F. Derril Reed	618 - 169th Street, Hammond
Margaret Gunderson	6609 Jefferson, Hammond
Grace E. Mack	14 Ruth Street, Hammond
Delbert & Constance Purkey	7114 Lyman Avenue, Hammond
John F. Wilhelm	6346 Hohman Avenue, Hammond
Edward B. Hayward	6708 Madison Avenue, Hammond
R. Paul Bartolini	624 N. Oakwood Street, Griffith
W. A. Reeder	30 Glendale Park, Hammond
Elsie Marx	4725 Henry Avenue, Hammond
Kurt Marx	4725 Henry Avenue, Hammond
Mary Ruch	516 Waltham Street, Hammond
Verlyn Mack	
Bayless Paddack	
Clarence Huber	

HAMMOND HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 1971

The Hammond Historical Society met in the Community Room of the Hammond Public Library at 2:15 p.m. on Sunday, November 28, 1971. Thirty-five people signed the attendance sheet. President Verlyn Mack presided. The attached treasurer's report for the first seven months of the society year was presented. Gordon Whitney presented the society with two bronze plaques from the Woman's Relief Corp No. 248 recovered from two trees in Riverside Park that were planted in honor of John R. Taylor and George R. Steeter in 1940.

The following resolution was presented for discussion: "That the Hammond Historical Society hereby resolves at its meeting of November 28, 1971, that it give all assistance possible as well as moral support to the Lake County Historical Association and its committees so that, with the support of the Lake County Commissioners and the Lake County Council, the present Court House in Crown Point may be preserved as a worthy architectural and historical structure and that it may become a much-used museum for historical, industrial and cultural purposes for all the citizens of Lake County, Indiana." Mr. John Wilhelm put it in the form of a motion, seconded by Karl Marx and passed by the vote of the group. Meetings for next year were scheduled for the last Sunday in each of January, February, and March at 2:15 p.m. and the annual dinner in May, the date to be announced later.

The speaker for the day was Pete Schrum, 57 year old son of Peter Schrum, founder of the Calumet Pickle Works. He is the youngest of nine children. His grandfather, Hans Johann Schrum, was born in Schleswig-Holstein, Germany in 1834. He left Germany in 1851 to avoid serving in the Kaiser's army and lived in Holland 2 years before coming to the U.S. in 1853. He worked for the Illinois Central Railroad, sawing wood for wood burning engines. In 1860 he married Louise Schuringa who also worked for the railroad, and they lived on a small farm in Cooper's Grove. In 1862 they came to the Schrum Homestead site in what is now Calumet City as the first settlers there. He bought his first acreage for \$17 an acre. He farmed and bought more land until he owned 275 acres which reached from the Michigan City Road to the Calumet River and from State Line to a point west of Wentworth. He raised hay and potatoes and marketed them in Chicago at \$3 a load of hay. Their first home was built where Vince's Restaurant now stands. Each time a son got married, he built a new home and gave one to the son (thru the 4th son married before he died at 90.) The sons were Henry, Fred, Peter, William, Boyd and Claus. The girls were Dora and Lena and one daughter who died at 14 years. He went into the dairy business with 40 to 50 cows and sold milk to customers at 5¢ a quart measured into customer's cans. They also made butter and ice cream. The dairy business was later sold to Klitzke Dairy who in turn sold it to Borden's and they went back to farming. They had 11 acres planted in pickles which they had been selling to Claussen's in Chicago. The daughter Dora was married to C. F. Claussen. When Claussens had so many pickles from their own farms, they were unable to take them all. The sons went to the Carlson-Cooperage Tank Co. and bought and had tanks installed within a week and suddenly they were in the pickle business. They made all sorts of pickles, sauerkraut, catsup,



olives, chili sauce, olive oil, mustard, vinegar, salad oils and jellies. The father leased the farm to the boys at \$600 a year. Henry stayed in farming and four of the boys, Claus, Fred, Bill and Pete, were active in the pickle business. It started in 1903 as Schrum Bros. Pickle Co. but on July 31, 1904 it was changed to the Calumet Pickle Works. A tornado damaged the catsup house Nov. 11, 1940 and they stopped making catsup. When cabbage became too expensive to buy, they stopped making sauerkraut. In 1945 during World War II when the boys were in the service, their father retired and closed up the pickle works. The only one living yet is Claus who lives on a farm in Rensselaer and is 89 years old.

When Pete returned from the service at 29 years old, he was going to take a job as Sales Manager for Hydrox Ice Cream until he talked to his brothers and they decided to reopen the pickle works. In 1947 it was reopened as the P. N. Schrum Sons by four sons. They are still operating in the original hand-made, solid-cement block buildings with three sons still in the business. Pickles and peppers are all they are canning now which locally are sold at Jewel Stores, Strack-Van Til's and Burgers. Their pickles are trucked in from Newland, Indiana, formerly a stop on the Monon.

Pete's father Peter went to school thru 7th grade at the Burnham Avenue School. He had to live with a family in Chicago to go to 8th grade there and finally got his diploma when 17 years old. In business he tried to make money fast with many ventures and always ended up losing money. In 1925 he tried to build a tractor with a motor. International Harvester wanted to buy the idea from him but he insisted on making them himself. He made 10 before he gave up. 17 years later International Harvester got it for nothing when the patent ran out. Most of the family's money was lost in the banks in the depression and in poor real estate deals so the subdividers made the money and the family's large land holdings were dissipated. They now have about 3 acres left.

Pete displayed a Beamis seamless sack that was over 100 years old (and in good condition) which his grandfather had used to keep all his important papers in. He also had a picture of his grandfather and grandmother and all their children taken just before his grandfather died.

Mr. Mack congratulated Mr. Wilhelm on being named to represent District I on the state committee to plan the 200th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence in 1976. The meeting adjourned at 3:15 and refreshments were served during a social hour.

Respectfully submitted,

*Marjorie Sohl*

Marjorie Sohl, Secretary

C126J

HAMMOND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

5/1/71 to 12/1/71 - 7 mo.

May 1, 1971

\$ 788.15

INCOME:

Dues	\$237.00	
Other	412.98	\$ 649.98

EXPENSES

Postage	\$74.00	
Newsletter	74.58	
Refreshments	34.90	
Miscellaneous	687.49	
		\$ 870.47

December 1, 1971

\$ 567.66



HAMMOND HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
ATTENDANCE  
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 1971

<u>NAME</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>
Florence Cleveland	8048 White Oak, Munster
Lida M. Owen	440 Highland Street, Hammond
Dollie K. Bower	6916 Hohman Avenue, Hammond
Miss Mary J. Maguire	513 Lewis Street, Hammond
Mrs. Elsie Marx	4725 Henry Avenue, Hammond
Mrs. Leona Williams	5945 Hyslop Place, Hammond
Helen Lind	5945 Hyslop Place, Hammond
Alice L. Brooks	8148 Meadow Lane, Munster
Dorothy Bemisderfer	257 Vine Street, Hammond
Charlotte Kasten	231 Adelaide Place, Munster
Ann Stevesand	918 Summer Blvd. Hammond
Katherine Williams	8801 Schneider Ave, Hammond
Helen Hogue	242 Oakwood Street, Hammond
John Sopata	7823 Forest Avenue, Munster
Matthew Thomas	6424 Woodward Avenue, Hammond
Ruth Whitman	3003 - 97th Place, Highland,
Bernice Sorenson	433 Vine Court, Hammond
Catherine Schrum	6539 Jefferson, Hammond
Grace E. Mack	14 Ruth Street, Hammond
Norman Allen	7307 Baring Parkway, Hammond
Suzanne Geis	7337 White Oak Avenue, Hammond
Conchetta Geis	7337 White Oak Avenue, Hammond
Constance E. (Knorr) Purkey	7114 Lyman Avenue, Hammond
Delbert L. (Bud) Purkey	7114 Lyman Avenue, Hammond
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas J. Lasbury	8111 Hohman Avenue, Munster
Kurt C. Marx	4725 Henry Avenue, Hammond
Edward B. Hayward	6708 Madison Avenue, Hammond
John F. Wilhelm	6346 Hohman Avenue, Hammond
Ethel Wilhelm	6346 Hohman Avenue, Hammond
Robert E. Wilhelm	5933 Park Place, Hammond
Marie C. Wilhelm	5933 Park Place, Hammond
Peter N. Schrum	
Verlyn Mack	
Marjorie Sohl	

HAMMOND HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
SUNDAY, JANUARY 30, 1972

The meeting of the Hammond Historical Society was called to order by the president, Verlyn Mack at 2:15 p.m. on Sunday, January 30, 1972. Those in attendance identified themselves. Thirty-seven signed the attendance sheet. The treasurer reported \$606.86 in the treasury and all bills paid. The opening of the cornerstone of the County Court House is to be attended by members of the Hammond Historical Society. Gordon Whitney reported on the placing in Harding School of a letter written by Warren G. Harding purchased by the society.

The speaker for the day was Merritt Metz who gave a history of masonry in early Hammond. He has been a member for sixty years and was the first master of McKinley Lodge. He joined the Porter Lodge #137 on Nov. 14, 1911 while in school. He came to Hammond in 1913, attended a dance at the Masonic Temple and joined the Garfield Lodge. John Bielfeld Hines was worshipful master then. He paid tribute to a fellow mason and neighbor, Herman Holtz and to Dr. Onus O. Melton, who delivered both his sons and inducted his sons into the masons. Mr. Metz began working in the Garfield Lodge in 1916. The membership grew so rapidly that in 1919 Willis Ford, the worshipful master applied for a charter for a new lodge and the McKinley Lodge was born. Mr. Metz was chosen as the first master with Harry Margenau as the Sr. Warden and John C. Kennedy the Jr. Warden.

Mr. Metz gave some history of the beginnings of masonry in Hammond in 1883 and read excerpts from Dr. William F. Howat's book on the history of Lake County. He read the names of some of the early officers and members and commented on his association with each of them: Frank S. Betz, A. Murray Turner, and John Fitzgerald. The first meeting was held at the southwest corner of Morton Court and Plummer. They also met in the Carleton Hotel or Morton House and in 1892 at 85 State Street which was just west of Schloers Shoe Store. The present site was selected after meeting temporarily at the corner of Hohman and Muenick Court. The cornerstone was laid May 1, 1907 by Joseph C. Ibach and the first meeting held there Nov. 29, 1907. The 25th anniversary of the lodge was celebrated in 1908 and the Orak Temple instituted May 18, 1909. Mr. Metz explained something of the York Rite and Scottish Rite masonry degrees as being highly dramatic and filled with moral teachings. McKinley Lodge grew to have more members than the Garfield Lodge.

In the question period, Mr. Metz told about Jacob Kasper who was tyler of the lodge for 50 years. He always led the parades as clown but really was an engineer. Seven pages are devoted to him in the book on the history of masonry. In 1965 a history of the Garfield Lodge #569 was published, written by George L. Pokus. Mr. Metz said he should write a history of the McKinley Lodge but has been too busy.

The meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m. Refreshments were served.

Respectfully submitted,

*Marjorie Sohl*

Marjorie Sohl, Secretary



# HAMMOND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

ATTENDANCE  
SUNDAY, JANUARY 30, 1972

<u>NAME</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>
Mr. & Mrs. Paul G. Kompier	1551 Ohio Avenue, Whiting
Florence Cleveland	8048 White Oak Avenue, Munster
Mary Ruch	516 Waltham Street, Hammond
Elsie Marx	4725 Henry Avenue, Hammond
A. James Cox	4227 Hohman Avenue, Hammond
Kurt Marx	4725 Henry Avenue, Hammond
Emma Hausknecht	835 Morris Street, Hammond
Charlotte Kasten	231 Adelaide Place, Munster
Ann Stevesand	918 Summer Blvd. Hammond
Alma Rohde	7042 Kennedy Avenue, Hammond
Willard R. Jonas	256 Detroit Street, Hammond
Evainez Jonas	256 Detroit Street, Hammond
Beulah Drackert, Martin & Errett	12739 Woodland Avenue, Cedar Lake
Warren A. Reeder	30 Glendale Park, Hammond
Gordon Whitney	6806 Grand Avenue, Hammond
Mr. and Mrs. Ray Wiker	1711 - 171st Street, Hammond
Hope E. McKinney	7531 - 175th Street, Hammond
Mrs. Roscoe E. Woods	7531 - 175th Street, Hammond
Eugene A. Chlebowski, Jr.	6719 New Hampshire Avenue, Hammond
Ruth B. Whitman	3003 - 97th Place, Highland
Lida M. Owen	440 Highland Street, Hammond
Laura Brown	5216 Howard Avenue, Hammond
Gladys Hays	7931 Delmar Avenue, Hammond
Vic Mettler and Mrs.	521 - 165th Street, Hammond
Vernon B. Wilson	251 Doty Street, Hammond
Steve J. Housty	4723 Cameron Avenue, Hammond
John O. White	4235 Johnson Avenue, Hammond
Delbert L. Bud Purkey	7114 Lyman Avenue, Hammond
Constance E. Knorr Purkey	7114 Lyman Avenue, Hammond
Verlyn Mack	14 Ruth Street, Hammond
Mrs. Grace Mack	14 Ruth Street, Hammond
Merritt Metz	
Edward B. Hayward	

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*Hammond Times*  
2/21/72

## **SCHLOER WILL SPEAK**

HAMMOND—Jacob Schloer, who operated one of the oldest shoe stores in Hammond until it closed, will address the Hammond Historical Society at its meeting at 2:15 p.m. Feb. 27.

The group will meet in the auditorium of the Main Library, 566 State St.

Schloer is the grandson of Jacob Schloer who founded the Schloer Shoe Store in 1884 on State Street.



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HAMMOND HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 1972

The meeting of the Hammond Historical Society was called to order by President Verlyn Mack at 2:20 p.m. on Sunday, February 27, 1972 in the Community Room of the Hammond Public Library. The attendance sheet was signed by 59 members and friends who each identified himself. The treasurer reported a balance of \$588.38.

Mrs. Mack reported on plans for the annual banquet. Contact with the All Saints Church indicated their remodelling would not be completed before July so they could not host the meeting this year. Contacts are being made with St. Michael's Ukranian Church in Munster.

Mr. Heidelberger, Chairman of the committee on preservation of the court house at Crown Point reported on the meeting of the Lake County Historical Society held Saturday, Feb. 26th at Lowell. Warren Reeder is the local representative working with this committee. They are working to preserve the 100 year old structure as a period piece as well as a house for developing a museum and headquarters for local artifacts and memorabilia. The legal possibility exists to set a 1¢ county tax which could raise \$10,000 in one year to refurbish it.

Mr. Mack displayed a hand-embroidered blanket cover presented by the Mettler family which was done about 1900. Each square was embroidered to represent a family or business in and around the German Methodist Church on Truman Street.

The Open House of the new Hammond Fire Department was announced as going on today until 5 p.m. All were encouraged to attend.

The speaker for today was William Jake Schloer, the son and grandson of the pioneer shoe store in town, which was in continuous business for almost 90 years in Hammond, until it closed on December 18, 1971. Jake gave a brief history of shoes from the early papyrus leaves as sandals which are still a basic style today thru the American Indian moccasins, also still popular today. The peak of high heels was reached with 6 inch heels in the Renaissance. Since 1920 low cut shoes have been worn the year around. Until the Civil War, both left and right shoes were made on the same last. The advent of electrical power machinery aided greatly in the manufacture of shoes, formerly all made by hand. Over 620 million pairs of shoes a year are sold in the United States, more than three pairs per person.

Jacob Schloer, the founder of the shoe business was born in Germany. In 1871 he got to New York with only \$100 to his name. He stayed with relatives until 1876 in the Brunswick and Blue Island area. <sup>Jake's</sup> His grandparents were married in Blue Island and their first home was at Calumet and Plummer. On September 2, 1882 Jacob opened a shoe store at State and Hohman which was a custom shoe store for the first 8 to 10 years. The store was on the four corners until 1899 when they built the building a few doors west on State Street where the business continued until it closed in 1971. State Street was the first street in Hammond to be widened and the store owners on the north side of the street had to pay damages to those on the

south side who had the fronts of their buildings cut off. State Street was expected to be THE business street in Hammond, but it never developed.

In 1914, William joined his father in the business and it became J. Schloer and Son. In 1921, Pat joined the business and it became J. Schloer and Sons. Pat died in 1941, Jake, the son of William, was born in 1923 and went to the Army in 1943. When he returned in 1945 he and his brother-in-law, Harold Hepner, rejoined the business. In 1946 it became Schloer Shoes, until it closed Dec. 18, 1971.

In a question period, Jake paid tribute to John Gregolos, an orthopedic craftsman who worked for them at a repair shop in the back of the store for 35 years. He displayed a picture taken in the store in 1950 and also three pairs of shoes dating from 1917, 1918, and 1920 which he donated to the society and a pair of high women's shoes from 1882, made of kid leather and with extremely pointed toes.

The meeting adjourned at 3:15 and coffee and cookies were served during a social hour.

Respectfully submitted,



Marjorie Sohl, Secretary



# HAMMOND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

ATTENDANCE  
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 1972

<u>NAME</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>
Henry E. Hoyles	1156 Wilcox Street, Hammond
Helen Stolley Hoyles	1156 Wilcox Street, Hammond
Alma Rohde	7042 Kennedy Avenue, Hammond
Ann Stevesand	918 Summer Street, Hammond
Ethel Andrews	1105 Summer Street, Hammond
Emma Hausknecht	835 Morris Street, Hammond
Charlotte Kasten	231 Adelaide Place, Munster
Leona Williams	5945 Hyslop Place, Hammond
Bertha Farkas	5945 Hyslop Place, Hammond
Evainez and Willard Jonas	256 Detroit Street, Hammond
Mary Ruschlie Peters	8428 Moraine Avenue, Hammond
Arthur A. Rutz	1036 Cleveland Street, Gary
Marion Isaacs	R 9, Valparaiso, Ind.
Olive Isaacs	R 9, Valparaiso, Ind.
Florence D. Miller	6837 Wicker Avenue, Hammond
Lida M. Owen	440 Highland Street, Hammond
R. D. Thompson	7114 Jefferson Avenue, Hammond
Norma Thompson	7114 Jefferson Avenue, Hammond
Louise Piest	303 Beacon Place, Munster
Charlotte Dreischerf	31 Elizabeth Street, Calumet City
Pearl Schuler	8254 Crestwood Avenue, Munster
Louise Schroeter	40 Lawndale Street, Hammond
Norman Allen	7307 Baring Parkway, Hammond
Fern Arnold	8806 Woodward Avenue, Highland
Robert E. Wilhelm	5933 Park Place, Hammond
Grace Mack	14 Ruth Street, Hammond
J. C. Henning	1006 May Street, Hammond
Florence Cleveland	8048 White Oak Avenue, Munster
Ruth Whitman	3003 - 97th Place, Highland
Helen Hogue	242 Oakwood Street, Hammond
Olga L. Ballah	719 Spruce Street, Hammond
Nelda Humpfer	237 Oakwood Street, Hammond
Helen Hecht	7434 Beech Avenue, Hammond
Gertrude Doehring	7434 Beech Avenue, Hammond
Elsie Friederich	231 Humpfer Street, Hammond
Delbert L. Bud Purkey	7114 Lyman Avenue, Hammond
Constance E. Purkey	7114 Lyman Avenue, Hammond
Mrs. W. H. Justice	7219 Maplewood Street, Hammond
Vic Mettler	521 - 165th Street, Hammond
William Heidbieder	141 North Grant Street, Crown Point
Mrs. William (Nina) Heidbieder	141 North Grant Street, Crown Point
Ruth B. Minas	304 Ellendale Parkway, Crown Point
Harvey T. Minas	304 Ellendale Parkway, Crown Point
Russell O. Prevos	Lake Dale Carley
Ethel Wilhelm	6346 Hohman Avenue, Hammond
John F. Wilhelm	6346 Hohman Avenue, Hammond
Nina Cravens	423 Florence Street, Hammond
F. Emil Reed	618 - 169th Street, Hammond
Walter F. Gard	11627 Burr Street, Crown Point
Leigh M. Grant	7139 Hohman Avenue, Hammond
Warren Reeder	30 Glendale Park, Hammond

01343

HAMMOND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

ATTENDANCE  
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 1972

NAME

ADDRESS

Mr. & Mrs. H. J. Geiger  
Anna Henning  
Verlyn Mack  
William Jake Schloer  
Mary Ruch  
Marjorie Sohl

6530 Jefferson Avenue, Hammond  
1006 May Stteet, Hammond



# HAMMOND HISTORICAL SOCIETY BOARD MEETING FRIDAY, MARCH 17, 1972

A meeting of the Board of Directors of the Hammond Historical Society was called to order by the president, Verlyn Mack, at 1:30 p.m. on Friday, March 17, 1972 in the Calumet Room of the Hammond Public Library. The 14 members on the attached list attended.

Mr. Mack presented a summary of the progress made in locating a place for the annual meeting in May. All Saints church had been contacted but because their remodelling is not yet completed, they were unable to host the meeting this year. In looking for an ethnic background church, the Greek Orthodox church was approached. Their hall is now reserved for use of their own church activities only. St. Michael's Ukrainian Orthodox church in Munster was contacted. The only date available for them in May was Thursday, May 11. Their board has not yet acted on the proposal. Trinity Lutheran church and the First Christian church were suggested as alternates. Hubert Hawkins was suggested as a speaker for the dinner.

Henry Reissig has been scheduled for the March 26th meeting. Out of the discussion for other possibilities for speakers for April or later, the following were suggested:

1. Mrs. Woods on Woodmar
2. Donald Gavit on the Gavit family
3. John Pfrommer on Lever Bros.
4. Robert Wilhelm on the Boy Scout movement.
5. Mayor Anderson
6. Roscoe Hemstock
7. Walt Milligan
8. Frank Selliger
9. Floyd Murray
10. Fred Cole
11. Ostrowski
12. Mrs. Hayes on Hammond High School
13. Simons and Liesenfelt on cigar making in Hammond
14. Early Theatres - Carl Kleihege, Walt Milligan & Joe Hirsch
15. Tom McKinney has a presentation on theatres.

Warren Reeder, John Wilhelm and Bud Purkey have been investigating ways in which the society might try to expand. If we were large enough to have over 300 in our mailing, we could get a substantially lower rate. It had been determined that a city wide mailing to 20 to 22,000 homes in Hammond would cost about \$600. Mr. Wilhelm expressed the opinion that we should have 600 to 800 members and that we could increase to that size and keep it mainly thru our publications. It was suggested that we increase our dues to \$5.00, promise a publication every year, and give each one a publication annually with his dues payment. This was moved by Robert Wilhelm and seconded by Kurt Marx and passed by the board, to be effective in May. Mailing lists can be purchased by the zip code area. It was suggested to try one area at a time, 46327 and 46324, as well as a controlled group of names suggested by members.

Board Meeting, Minutes, March 17, 1972.

Suggestions of future activities included:

1. Participate in downtown Old Fashion Day in July or July with a window exhibit.
2. Participate in the Lake County Fair in August with a display and manned information booth.
3. Investigate erecting of historical markers at the location of local historical places as:
  - a. Circus wreck
  - b. Packing house fire
  - c. Hohman's original home.

A hand-out publication could be produced listing and picturing them and telling a little about each.

The Little Red School House testimonial dinner will be held April 6 honoring Mr. Ileff. It will be at Morton High School at 6:30 p. m. for \$2.50. Members will be encouraged at the meeting Sunday, March 26 to attend the dinner.

The meeting adjourned at 2:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Marjorie Sohl, Secretary



HAMMOND HISTORICAL SOCIETY BOARD MEETING  
FRIDAY, MARCH 17, 1972  
ATTENDANCE

Ann Stevesand  
Charlotte Kasten  
Mrs. Leona Williams  
Warren Reeder  
Donald Gavit  
John Wilhelm  
Fern Arnold  
Edward B. Hayward  
Mrs. Gladys Hays  
Ruth Whitman  
Verlyn Mack  
Kurt Marx  
Robert Wilhelm  
Marjorie Sohl

HAMMOND HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
SUNDAY, MARCH 26, 1972

The Hammond Historical Society met in the Community Room of the Hammond Public Library on Sunday, March 26, 1972 at 2:30 p.m. Mr. Verlyn Mack presided and started the meeting with self introductions by those present. 27 signed the attendance sheet.

Mr. Mack announced that at the Board of Directors meeting held on Friday, March 17 it was decided to increase the annual dues to \$5.00 beginning with the new year in May and each new member would be given an historical society publication. The speaker, place and time for the annual meeting is still uncertain but will be confirmed soon. Donations of memorabilia this month included an antique pop bottle from the Charles Mayer Bottling Company.

Mr. Reissig who was scheduled for the program today was unable to be here. In his place Mr. Robert Wilhelm, one of our directors, was prevailed upon on short notice to speak on what he remembered about the beginnings of the Boy Scout Movement in Hammond. He was brought to Hammond in 1904 or 5 by his parents from Huntington. His brother John was born in Hammond after their move here. He described early Hammond as a raw western town with many saloons and unpaved streets and not much for young boys to do but get into trouble throwing rocks at each others gangs. In 1908 Lord Batten Powell had started the Boy Scout Movement in England. William Boyce of nearby Joliet, Illinois, brought the movement to this country on Feb. 8, 1910. It was chartered by Congress in June, 1916.

The Baptist Church had built a new gym and with this facility available, Rev. Floyd Adams encouraged Levi Golden to be the scout master and they established Troop 1 at the Baptist Church. Robert Wilhelm joined this troop when 11 years old in 1914. Other early members then included Russell Burke, a lame boy, Tom Dochery, Donald Hessler, William Berry, Alex Batony and Russell Lawrence. The purpose of the Boy Scouts was to develop character in boys, based on the laws of the Knights. They were organized into patrols of 8 boys each and troops of 32. They learned the Boy Scout oath and laws and progressed thru Tenderfoot, 2nd Class, 1st Class, Star, Life and Eagle Scouts based on earning of merit badges by learning skills and passing tests. Thousands of lives have been saved as the result of boys risking their own to save others based on their learned skills in safety and first aid. Many nationalities were moving into the Hammond area and the Boy Scouts served as a melting pot, a common ground for these boys to meet. Through organized play, the scouts fulfilled a four point purpose:

1. to build character,
2. to develop skills thru teaching handicrafts,
3. to learn health and safety rules,
4. to be helpful to others.

Summer camps were started for the boys in scouting to attend. The first was at Cedar Lake for 2 years, 1918-1919. The second was at Lake Eliza for 3 years, 1920-1922. In 1923 Camp Betz was donated to the Scouts by Frank Betz and has been the camp for local scouts ever since. Mr. Wilhelm's first scout camp experience was when he was 11 year old and went to Camp Owapasee in Michigan with the Chicago scouts. Mr. Wilhelm earned a medal for selling war bonds during the first World War thru the scouts. In World War II he helped organize scouts in their paper, clothing and scrap drives for the war effort.



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Locally the scouts are now organized into the Pokagon Trails Council. The first commissioners were Frank Harris, Kenneth Davies and A.B. Scott. They now screen and train scout masters carefully. National Jamborees attract up to 10,000 boys. The local scouts once held a jamboree in Harrison Park and there Robert's brother John became the local knot tying champion.

Mr. Mack announced the next meeting would be Sunday, April 30, at 2:15 p.m. at the library. The speaker is to be announced. Mr. John Wilhelm was called up to explain the mailing to be made in the effort to increase memberships, and the increase in dues in order to better underwrite a policy of publication. Each of the two publications has cost about \$1500, the first of which has now repaid itself. On scouting, John Wilhelm added that Troop 1 was established at the Baptist Church, Troop 2 organized by Levi Golden, Troop 5 at the Presbyterian Church, and Troop 9 at the Presbyterian Church. The first five Eagle Scouts were conferred at one time on James Hulsey, Fred Kolb, Dale Gordon, Leland Labell and ? Parker. Levi Golden was a great whittler. He taught it to many scouts, one being Elmer Tangerman who later in the 1930's published a book on whittling.

The Little Red School House Dinner on April 6 at \$2.50 was announced with tickets available from Gordon Whitney.

The meeting adjourned with refreshments of coffee and cookies served.

Respectfully submitted,

*Marjorie Sohl*

Marjorie Sohl, Secretary

HAMMOND HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
ATTENDANCE  
SUNDAY, MARCH 26, 1972

<u>NAME</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>
Mrs. N. V. Owen	Hammond
Mrs. Florence D. Miller	Hammond
Mrs. Leona Williams	Hammond
Mrs. Bertha Farkas	Hammond
Mrs. Emma Hausknecht	Hammond
Miss Charlotte Kasten	Munster
Ruth Whitman	Highland
Errett Martin	Cedar Lake
Beulah Martin	Cedar Lake
Norman Allen	7307 Baring Avenue, Hammond
Louise Schroeter	40 Lawndale Street, Hammond
Florence Cleveland	8948 White Oak Avenue, Munster
Mary Ruch	516 Waltham Street, Hammond
Roy Duke	927 Michigan Street, Hammond
Viola Duke	927 Michigan Street, Hammond
Grace E. Mack	14 Ruth Street, Hammond
Carl & Lucia Huebner	1543 -170th Street, Hammond
Mrs. John F. Wilhelm	6346 Hohman Avenue, Hammond
Mrs. Robert E. Wilhelm	5933 Park Place, Hammond
Nina S. Cravens (Mrs. G.W.)	423 Florence Street, Hammond
Delbert S. (Bud) Purkey	7114 Lyman Avenue, Hammond
Constance E. Knorr Purkey	7114 Lyman Avenue, Hammond
John F. Wilhelm	6346 Hohman Avenue, Hammond
Robert E. Wilhelm	
Edward B. Hayward	



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HAMMOND HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
SUNDAY, APRIL 30, 1972

The Hammond Historical society met on Sunday, April 30, 1972 at the Hammond Public Library. President Verlyn Mack called the meeting to order at 2:25 p.m. The minutes of the last meeting were read and accepted. A roll call sheet was passed indicating 29 were present. Warren Reeder reported a balance of \$388.00 in the treasury. He encouraged members to return the forms sent out a couple months ago to report their known geneology. Those present today were urged to pick up the new bulletin and sign for it today. The remaining bulletins will be mailed out after this meeting. The new bulletin contains the announcement and information on the annual meeting scheduled for Tuesday, May 16 at the First Christian Church with Hubert Hawkins as speaker on William Hendricks, Pioneer politician.

Mr. Hayward announced the Tri Kappa Homes Tour scheduled for May 21 from 1 to 5 p.m. This year Architect L. Cosby Bernard is being honored. The public buildings he designed will be featured in the display at the Sawyer Branch Library, also designed by him. Some of the houses he designed will be toured and others will be featured in the picture display at the Art Center.

Mr. Mack announced that several members attended the Little Red School House dinner on April 6 at which time he presented them with a check for \$50 from the Hammond Historical Society.

Mr. Mack presented the speaker for the day, Mrs. Bettie Phelps, the executive vice president of the Humane Society of the Calumet Area, Inc.

Mrs. Phelps started with comments on the humane movement's beginning as far back as 1824 in England when Henry Burg became appalled at the cruelty to animals and in 1866 founded the SPC, the Society for Prevention of Cruelty, and more specifically, in 1876 founded the SPCC, the Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Children. In 1877 the American Humane Society was formed and now there are over 1000 humane societies in the U. S. An International Society was formed in 1959.

Of a more local nature, the beginnings in Lake County stem from a horse ambulance built by Sid Hoffman with Dr. Ebright. Dan O'Connor, a blacksmith built it with the help of Carl Schwartz and it was used until 1919. Gary claims to have started a humane society in 1901 but they did not build a shelter until this year.

In Hammond, the Society was started in 1940 by Evelyn Sweitzer who lived behind the police department and on hot nights became aware that dogs were being kept in a trailer that was hot and lacked ventilation. It was organized at the home of Mrs. Earl Buckman, Aug. 6, 1940. Monthly meetings were held at the City Hall, and a dog pond was located on Hohman Avenue. In December, 1940, building of a pond was started at 431 Vine Street. Roy Sweitzer, brother of the founder and a city councilman, had land rezoned in 1941 and the present site at 6546 Columbia was purchased by Mr. Sweitzer and given to the society. On Nov. 10, 1941 a three car garage was purchased and moved to the Columbia Avenue site. On April 23, 1946, the



adjoining lot was purchased. The house was sold in 1960 because of poor publicity. Now it is needed for expansion but can not be repurchased because of an exorbanent price.

Mrs. Phelps started helping at the pond in the 1940's where she learned about dog care by doing. Until 1954, the city paid for the services of two fulltime and 1 part time person, but in 1954 a change was made. The society hired its own employees and contracted with the city for services. They now have contracts also for full or part time services to Highland, Munster, and Whiting and counseling service to other communities as it is needed and requested. The presidents of the Society have included: Mrs. Bucker, 1940; Mrs. Sheller, 1941; Charles Geyer, 1941-1955; Roy Sweitzer, 1955-1956; Dorothy Clark, 1957; Evelyn Sweitzer, 1958-1962; Edward O'Hara, 1963-1966; Joseph Redding, 1967-1968; Richard F. DeVine, 1969 to date.

The Society has shown fantastic growth. Receipts on 1944 totaled only \$233.33. In 1971 they were \$5250.93. In 1944 they handled 2,127 animals and in 1971, 16,876. The shelter quarters have been enlarged about every six years, beginning with a three car wooden structure in 1941. They never turn down any animal and the number of animals has increased so greatly. They service an area of 50 miles around. In Oct. 1971, the name was changed from the Hammond Humane Society to the Humane Society of the Calumet Area, Inc. They encourage people not to buy exotic animals--that is anything that has been wild--as chips, lions, bears, jaguars, ocelots, monkeys, cheetos, racoons, even rabbits and squirrels. They become dangerous as they become adults. They are not mainly interested in finding homes for animals. There just are not enough homes available. They insist that animals should be spaded to cut down on the millions born every year.

All humane societies accept the responsibility of putting animals to sleep. They believe that they are safe in sleep. They try to educate by visiting the classes in school and enforce by ticketing people who let their animals run loose. The fee is now \$5.00 but they are trying to raise it to \$20.

In the question period, Mrs. Phelps stated that rabies are not common in dogs but the problems are in the wild life like skunks, foxes and squirrels. The animals which they handle are about 45% dogs, 43% cats, and 12 other. Concerning the recent problem in East Chicago, she said they do have a definite problem and the society will keep on it to correct it. Dead bodies must be disposed of in 24 hours. The Society cremates them but East Chicago has been finding dead bodies at the city dump. The Society uses an euthanair chamber for a painless death. Veterinarians put animals to sleep with a needle, into the heart or into the vein but they charge for the service. The Society does not. It is also illegal to dump dogs out in the country to run loose on the farm lands.

The meeting adjourned with the serving of refreshments.

Respectfully submitted,

*Marjorie Sohl*  
Marjorie Sohl, Secretary



[143]

he said.

THE TIMES  
Sunday, April 23, 1972

## Humane Society Will Be Topic

HAMMOND — A history of the Hammond Humane Society will be given at an April 30 meeting of the Hammond Historical Society.

Speaker at the 2:15 p.m. session in the Main Library at 566 State St. will be Mrs. Bettie Phelps, executive vice president of the humane society.



BETTIE PHELPS  
... elected president

## Mrs. Phelps Lands Post

HAMMOND—Mrs. Bettie Phelps, executive vice president of the Humane Society — Calumet Area, Inc., has been elected president of the Indiana Federation of Humane Societies and re-elected secretary of the Midwest Humane Assn.

Mrs. Phelps has been with the local Humane Society for 12 years, has served on committees of the American Humane Assn. and is a member of the National Wildlife Assn. and the International Society for the Protection of Animals.

Two years ago, she became the only woman in over 1,000 humane societies to become a charter member of the Society of Animal Welfare Administrators.

HAMMOND HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
ATTENDANCE  
SUNDAY, APRIL 30, 1972

<u>NAME</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>
Warren Reeder	30 Glendale Park, Hammond
Ruth Whitman	3003 - 97th Place, Highland
Glady Hays	7931 Delmar Avenue, Hammond
Laura Brown	5216 Howard Avenue, Hammond
Charlotte Kasten	231 Adelaide Place, Munster
Emma Hausknecht	835 Morris Street, Hammond
Grace Parker	7523 Olcott Avenue, Hammond
Nina Cravens	423 Florence Street, Hammond
Alice Fuzy	6555 Forest Avenue, Hammond
Mrs. W. Fuzy	6555 Forest Avenue, Hammond
Lida M. Owen	440 Highland Street, Hammond
Dollie K. Bower	6916 Hohman Avenue, Hammond
Mary Ruschlie Peters	8428 Moraine Avenue, Munster
Norman Allen	7307 Baring Parkway, Hammond
Louise Schroeter	40 Lawndale Street, Hammond
Florence Cleveland	8948 White Oak Avenue, Munster
Mary Ruch	516 Waltham Street, Hammond
Delbert L. Bud Purkey	7114 Lyman Avenue, Hammond
Constance E. (Knorr) Purkey	7114 Lyman Avenue, Hammond
Theo. J. Shatkowski	6911 White Oak Avenue, Hammond
Phyllis Hepner	229 Conkey Avenue, Hammond
H.J. Geiger	6530 Jefferson Avenue, Hammond
Florence Geiger	6530 Jefferson Avenue, Hammond
Ethel Wilhelm	6346 Hohman Avenue, Hammond
John F. Wilhelm	6346 Hohman Avenue, Hammond
Eugene A. Chlebowski	6719 New Hampshire Avenue, Hammond
Mrs. Bettie Phelps	
Verlyn Mack	
Marjorie Sohl	



MINUTES OF THE 13th ANNUAL MEETING  
HAMMOND HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
TUESDAY, MAY 15, 1972

The thirteenth annual meeting (twelfth dinner meeting) of the Hammond Historical Society, Inc. was held at the First Christian Church, 5461 Calumet Avenue, Hammond, on Tuesday, May 15, 1972 at 6:30 p.m.

The president, Verlyn Mack, welcomed the guests and called upon Rev. Vernon H. Scott for the invocation. Dinner was served by the women of the church.

The business meeting was called to order at 7:20 p.m. by the president. Marjorie Sohl read the report of the last annual meeting, May 18, 1971, which was accepted. The attached roster showed 54 in attendance. Warren Reeder presented the treasurer's annual report which is attached showing a balance of \$389.84. This decreased balance substantiated the board's decision at the last meeting to increase the dues as of June 1, 1972 to \$5.00 a year and as an extra incentive to offer a choice of one of the society's publications free. Attention was called to the display of publications on the table and a supply of forms for biographical information on members. Mr. Reeder presented Mr. Mack with the Distinguished Service Award from the Society.

The nominating committee report was presented by John Wilhelm, chairman, and consisted of the following slate of officers and directors:

President - Mrs. Nina Cravens  
1st Vice President - Derril Reed  
2nd Vice President - Miss Helen Hogue  
3rd Vice President - Mrs. Ray T. Williams  
Secretary - Miss Marjorie Sohl  
Treasurer - Warren Reeder  
Speaker's Bureau - Gordon Whitney

DIRECTORS - Term expiring May, 1973  
Miss Georgia Barnett  
Mrs. Alice Brooks  
Edward C. Minas, III  
Robert Wilhelm  
Harry Wilson

DIRECTORS - Term expiring May, 1974  
Miss Florence Allman  
Miss Fern Arnold  
Donald Gavit  
Mrs. Edward Hayward  
Mrs. Ruth Whitman

DIRECTORS - Term expiring May, 1975  
Norman Allen  
Miss Charlotte Kasten  
Kurt Marx  
Mrs. Stella Miner  
Mrs. Anna Stevesand

DIRECTORS - Term expiring May, 1976  
Eugene Chlebowski  
Miss Alice Fuzy  
Mrs. Conchetta Geis  
Mrs. Gladys Hays  
Mrs. Lida Owen

John F. Wilhelm, Chairman  
Gordon Whitney  
Marjorie Sohl

There were no nominations from the floor so the slate was declared elected unanimously. Mr. Wilhelm thanked Mr. Mack for a successful year and Mr. Mack presented Mrs. Cravens, the newly elected president with the gavel.

The president then read the attached annual report, concluding by presenting the society for keeping in the Calumet Room a set of twelve brilliant, uncirculated silver dollars from the years 1879-1890.

Announcement was made concerning the annual bus tour which will be held on Sunday, June 11, leaving Waltham and Hohman at 1:30 p.m. for a tour to southern Lake County along the Kankakee River. Charge will be \$1.00

Mr. John F. Wilhelm conducted a brief memorial service to pay tribute to the members who have died during the past year: Mrs. Lulu Lasater, A.C. Bomberger, G.H. Jacobson, and Karl Faulstich. A rose for each was presented by Dolly Bowers, Florence Cleveland, Mary Peters, and Edward Hayward.

Mr. Mack, relating how he had in his youth attended Sunday School here, called upon Rev. Vernon Scott to summarize the history of our host church. The church's beginning dates from a revival held by E.B. Cross in the local opera house in 1887. Under the guidance of the Central Christian Church of Chicago, this church in Hammond was incorporated in 1894. The rostrum being used tonight was the pulpit in that first church, a gift from the Chicago church, the home church of President James A. Garfield, thus labeled with a plaque. It was reorganized in 1897 and in the period from 1897-1902 it was served by five pastors. In 1902 Rev. C.J. Sharp came and served for 18 years. During these years, many were baptised and 12 other Christian churches were started in the surrounding cities. Succeeding ministers here have included Rev. C.M. Smithson, Rev. Guy Dunning, Rev. Walter Harmon, Rev. A.A. Hyde, Rev. Archie Mackay, who instigated a complete building remodelling, and Rev. Dungan, who started the church in Highland as a part of this church with a single congregation but meeting in two places in order not to abandon the central city ministering. Since Oct. 1, 1969, Rev. Scott has been working here with the church to see what this congregation can do in the community. It now is the home of the Hammond Community Center offices and thrift shop, open four days a week; houses day classes for pregnant high school girls; operates a day care school; and cooperates with 4-H in the community summer program. It is now involved in an eccumenical venture of sharing its church facilities with the Immanuel United Church of Christ while they are without a church building.



Mr. Hubert Hawkins, Executive Secretary of the Indiana Historical Society, was presented as the speaker of the evening to talk about William Hendricks, Pioneer Politician. He opened with news that our own director, Mr. John Wilhelm, had been elected last month as chairman of the Board of Directors of the Indiana Historical Society.

William Hendricks was one of the pioneer men of Indiana and is today forgotten and hard to find information about him. He was born in Pennsylvania in 1782. He went to Washington and Jefferson College and was a classmate of Andrew Wiley, an early leader of Indiana University. In 1810 he came west to Cincinnati where he studied law and was admitted to the bar. In 1812 or 13 he settled in Madison, Indiana, his home for the rest of his life. He was elected to the territorial legislature the same year he moved to Indiana. He went to four territorial general assemblies and was elected Clerk of the House and then Speaker of the House. At Corydon he was elected Clerk of the state constitutional convention. He had charismatic charm and native ability that was recognized. He became the first spokesman for the state of Indiana when he went to Washington as our only member of the Federal House of Representatives. He served four terms there. The second time he ran against Thomas Posey, the third territorial governor of Indiana and an officer in the Revolution and defeated him about 8 to 5. He resigned to run for Congress but ran for governor instead. He was elected unopposed, a tribute to his popularity. He served 80% of his term and resigned to be elected to the Senate and he was off to Washington again. He served Indiana in national offices for 21 years, 1816-1837 holding seats in the House of Representatives four terms; governor, one term; and Senate, two terms. He was a product of the period of personal politics, before the split to the present day two party system. He did not line up with the Whig or Democratic Party and thus lost the election to O.H. Smith and his term of public service came to an end. At that time, Indiana was still considered to be the West and he stood for the same things Westerners were interested in: 1. International improvement; 2. Early removal of the Indians. They were in the way and objected to the building of cities. 3. He favored the National Bank because the West-needed credit. 4. He favored turning Federal domain over to the states but was defeated on this issue. He is an example of why historical societies must continue to promote the preservation of the private papers of people in public life. Here is a person so important to our early growth and we know so little about him. He had two sons who died in the Civil War. His nephew, Thomas Hendricks, was Vice President under Grover Cleveland.

Rev. Scott pronounced the benediction and the meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Marjorie Sohl*

Marjorie Sohl, Secretary



# THE HAMMOND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

## FINANCIAL REPORT, May 1st, 1971 to April 30th, 1972

### OFFICERS

M. S. Mary R. Peters  
PRESIDENT  
Mrs. Harry H. Wilson  
1ST VICE PRES.  
Henry J. Schmueser  
2ND VICE PRES.  
Henry O. Reissig  
3RD VICE PRES.  
Miss Marjorie Sohl  
SECRETARY  
Warren A. Reeder  
TREASURER

BALANCE AS OF May 1st, 1971 . . . . . \$788.15

### INCOME:

Dues . . . . . \$413.40  
Annual Dinner . . . . . 213.75  
Tour . . . . . 35.00  
Donations . . . . . 3.00

TOTAL . . . . . \$665.15

### EXPENSES:

Postage . . . . . \$ 189.00  
Newsletter . . . . . 223.29  
Refreshments . . . . . 15.71  
Annual Dinner . . . . . 238.56  
Tour . . . . . 59.00  
A. A. S. L. H. (dues) . . . . . 8.00  
Printing . . . . . 16.36  
Photographic Work . . . . . 11.20  
Maps . . . . . 28.60  
Promotional . . . . . 47.20  
Advertising . . . . . 5.60  
Indiana Historical Society  
Meeting . . . . . 171.92  
Sec'y. of State  
(filing corporate report) . . . . . 1.00  
Donation . . . . . 50.00  
(Little Red Schoolhouse)  
Miscellaneous . . . . . 7.02

TOTAL . . . . . \$1,072.46

BALANCE AS OF APRIL 30th, 1972 . . . . . \$380.84

### DIRECTORS

Miss Georgia Barnett  
Walter A. Bell  
Mrs. Fred W. Carter  
Henry C. Fehlberg  
Mrs. Marie M. Hanlon  
Mrs. Bertha Kleihege  
E. Clarence Minas  
Edward C. Minas III  
Mrs. Lida M. Owen  
Miss Mildred Peehl  
Mrs. Anna B. Perry  
Joseph Piekarczyk  
Delbert L. Purkey  
Elmer Rose  
Mrs. P. Q. Row  
Mrs. Rose K. Scherer  
Miss Frances Taylor  
Ruth B. Whitman  
Mary H. Wilson  
Mrs. Roscoe E. Woods

*Warren A. Reeder, Jr.*  
Warren A. Reeder, Jr.  
Treasurer





NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT  
OFFICERS AND BOARD  
HAMMOND HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
1972 -1973

President - Mrs. Nina Cravens  
1st Vice President - Derril Reed  
2nd Vice President - Miss Helen Hogue  
3rd Vice President - Mrs. Ray T. Williams  
Secretary - Miss Marjorie Sohl  
Treasurer - Warren Reeder  
Speaker's Bureau - Gordon Whitney

DIRECTORS - Term expiring May, 1973  
Miss Georgia Barnett  
Mrs. Alice Brooks  
Edward C. Minas, III  
Robert Wilhelm  
Harry Wilson

DIRECTORS - Term expiring May, 1974  
Miss Florence Allman  
Miss Fern Arnold  
Donald Gavit  
Mrs. Edward Hayward  
Mrs. Ruth Whitman

DIRECTORS - Term expiring May, 1975  
Norman Allen  
Miss Charlotte Kasten  
Kurt Marx  
-Mrs. Stella Miner  
Mrs. Anna Stevesand

DIRECTORS - Term expiring May, 1976  
Eugene Chlebowski  
Miss Alice Fuzy  
Mrs. Conchetta Geis  
Mrs. Gladys Hays  
Mrs. Lida Owens

John Wilhelm, Chairman  
Gordon Whitney  
Marjorie Sohl

Rev. Scott, Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen and Friends of Historical Societies:

I have come "full circle."

I started my term as President of this organization hosting the Indiana State Historical Society at their meeting in September at St. Casimir Church here in Hammond.

Mr. Hawkins was our speaker then as he is tonight at our Annual Banquet.

The past year has brought very diversified programs; we heard from two Undertakers, a Pickle Packer, a Masonic Order Hierarchy, a son of an early shoe salesman, an early Boy Scout, and a Dog Catcher.

Our organization has grown and prospered throughout the year. While it has been eventful, it too, has been fun ---I really enjoyed every minute of my presidency.

This being the 12th Annual Banquet, I would, at this time, like to donate to the Calumet Room, as a token of our city's 12 best years, this 12 piece set of Brilliant, Uncirculated Silver Dollars from the years 1879 to 1900. May they be looked upon, not for their monetary value, but for the period which they represent.

Also, Warren, I have a bag of 200 "H.H.S." pins for you to distribute as you see fit.

Again, I want to thank Warren for his help, John Wilhelm for his invaluable aid and encouragement, and Marge for her assistance this past year.

I truly enjoyed every minute of the past year as your President.

Thank you.

*Barbara Mark*



HAMMOND HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
ATTENDANCE  
TUESDAY, MAY 15, 1972

<u>NAME</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>
Mr. & Mrs. John F. Wilhelm	6346 Hohman Avenue, Hammond
Marjorie Sohl	5615 Sohl Avenue, Hammond
Miss Joyce Ann Sovinski	6331 Madison Avenue, Hammond
Verlyn Mack	14 Ruth Street, Hammond
Hubert H. Hawkins	Indiana Historical Society
Warren A. Reeder	30 Glendale Park, Hammond
Vernon H. Scott	7049 Forest Avenue, Hammond
Ruth Whitman	3003 97th Place, Highland
Eleanor Gray	6238 Garfield Avenue, Hammond
Mrs. Stanley Inkley	263 Webb Street, Hammond
Gladys Hays	7931 Delmar Avenue, Hammond
Laura Brown	5216 Howard Avenue, Hammond
V.E. Iliff	2530 - 169th Street, Hammond
Larris N. Cook	6944 Osborn Avenue, Hammond
Don Backe	738 - 173rd Street, Hammond
Wanda S. Kolodziej	7602 Jarnecke Avenue, Hammond
Robert E. Wilhelm	5933 Park Place, Hammond
Marie C. Wilhelm	5933 Park Place, Hammond
Lucia Huebner	1543 - 170th Street, Hammond
Carl A. Huebner	1543 - 170th Street, Hammond
Mr. & Mrs. H.J. Geiger	6530 Jefferson Avenue, Hammond
Louise Schroeter	40 Lawndale Street, Hammond
Norman Allen	7307 Baring Parkway, Hammond
Grace Mack	14 Ruth Street, Hammond
Conchetta Geis	7337 White Oak Avenue, Hammond
Suzanne Geis	7337 White Oak Avenue, Hammond
Charlotte Kasten	221 Adelaide Place, Munster
Alice Brooks	8148 Meadow Lane, Munster
Grace Parker	7523 Olcott Avenue, Hammond
Ann Stevesand	918 Summer Street, Hammond
Mr. & Mrs. Kurt Marx	4725 Henry Avenue, Hammond
Mrs. Vincent Bower	6916 Hohman Avenue, Hammond
Mrs. H. E. Miner	8254 Northcote Avenue, Munster
Florence Cleveland	8948 White Oak Avenue, Munster
Mary J. Maguire	513 Lewis Street, Hammond
Mrs. W. Fuzy	6555 Forest Avenue, Hammond
Alice Fuzy	6555 Forest Avenue, Hammond
Mary Ruschlie Peters	8428 Moraine Avenue, Munster
Leona Williams	5946 Hyslop Place, Hammond
Mr. & Mrs. E.B. Hayward	6708 Madison Avenue, Hammond
Eugene A. Chlebowsky, Jr.	6719 New Hampshire Avenue, Hammond
Mrs. George Cravens	423 Florence Street, Hammond
Mrs. N.V. Owen	440 Highland Street, Hammond
Mrs. Florence D. Miller	6837 Wicker Avenue, Hammond
Mrs. Isabel Webb	7019 Northcote Avenue, Hammond
Miss Eleanor Sulcer	3425 Garfield Street, Highland
Margaret Gunderson	6609 Jefferson, Hammond
Phyllis Hepner	229 Conkey Street, Hammond
Theo J. Shatkowski	6911 White Oak Avenue, Hammond
Helen Hogue	242 Oakwood Street, Hammond

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# HAMMOND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

12<sup>th</sup> annual  
meeting

Tuesday, May 16, 1972

Dinner 6:30 P.M.

1st Christian Church  
5461 Calumet Avenue  
Hammond, Indiana



HAMMOND HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
12th ANNUAL DINNER MEETING  
May 16, 1972 6:30 p.m.

First Christian Church of Hammond  
5461 Calumet Avenue  
Hammond, Indiana

WELCOME . . . . . Mr. Verlyn Mack  
INVOCATION. . . . . Rev. Vernon H. Scott  
DINNER. . . . . Women of the Church  
INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

BUSINESS MEETING AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Minutes of May 18, 1971  
Miss Marjorie Sohl, Secretary  
Treasurer's Annual Report  
Mr. Warren Reeder, Jr., Treasurer  
Report of Nominating Committee  
Mr. John F. Wilhelm, Chairman

President's Annual Report  
Mr. Verlyn Mack, President

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MEMORIAL SERVICE . . . Mr. John F. Wilhelm  
Mr. A.C. Bomberger Mr. G.H. Jacobson  
Mrs. Lulu Lasater Mr. Karl Faulstich

HISTORY OF FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH..Rev. Scott

SPEAKER. . . . . Mr. Hubert Hawkins  
"William Hendricks, Pioneer Politician"

ADJOURNMENT

OFFICERS 1971 - 1972

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President . . . . . Mr. Verlyn Mack  
1st Vice President. . . Mrs. Nina Cravens  
2nd Vice President. . . Miss Helen Hogue  
3rd Vice President. . . Mr. Derril Reed  
Secretary . . . . . Miss Marjorie Sohl  
Treasurer . . . . . Mr. Warren Reeder

DIRECTORS

Miss Alice Fuzy	Miss Florence Allman
Mrs. Gladys Hays	Miss Fern Arnold
Mrs. Margaret Moore	Mr. Donald Gavit
Mrs. Lida Owens	Mrs. Edward Hayward
Mr. Ray Williams	Mrs. Ruth Whitman
Miss Georgia Barnett	Mr. Norman Allen
Mrs. Alice Brooks	Miss Charlotte Kasten
Mr. Edward C. Minas, III	Mr. Kurt Marx
Mr. Robert Wilhelm	Mrs. Anna Stevesand
Mr. Harry Wilson	Mrs. Ray Williams

PAST PRESIDENTS

Mr. John F. Wilhelm	1959-60
Mr. Warren Reeder, Jr.	1960-61
Mr. Edward B. Hayward	1961-62
Mrs. Vincent Bower	1962-63
Mr. George Nelson	1963-64
Mr. Anton Tapper (Deceased)	1964-65
Mrs. Mary Peters	1965-66
Mrs. Harry Wilson	1966-67
Mr. Walter Bell (Deceased)	1967-68
Mrs. Henry Cleveland	1968-69
Miss Marjorie Sohl	1969-70
Mr. Gordon Whitney	1970-71

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**HAMMOND HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

**Twelfth Annual Dinner  
Tuesday, May 16, 1972**

**FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH  
5461 Calumet Avenue  
Hammond, Indiana**

**6:30 p.m.      Donation \$2.75**

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**THE TIMES**

**Monday, May 22, 1972**

## **Historical Boss OKd**

HAMMOND — Mrs. Nina Cravens has been elected to succeed Verlyn Mack as president of the Hammond Historical Society.

Marjorie Sohl and Warren Reeder were re-elected as secretary and treasurer at the meeting held at the First Christian Church of Hammond.

The Rev. Vernon Scott presented a history of the church. He also displayed the pulpit used by former President Garfield which was given to the church about 70 years ago from a church in Chicago.

New directors are Mrs. Stella Miner, Mr. Eugene Chlebowski, Miss Alice Fuzy, Mrs. Martin Geis, Mrs. Gladys Hays and Mrs. Lida Owens.



HAMMOND HISTORICAL SOCIETY TOUR  
SUNDAY, JUNE 11, 1972

The annual bus tour of the Hammond Historical Society was held on Sunday, June 11, 1972. Fifty members and friends met at the Board of Education Building at Waltham and Hohman on Sunday afternoon at 1:30 p.m. They filled one bus to capacity and set out for the Kankakee River area of Southern Lake County and Northern Newton County. The tour traveled along or crossed each of the three former beaches of Lake Michigan as it receded. Leaving from Waltham Street, the most recent former beach ridge, the route South on Calumet to Dyer crossed the Tolliston Ridge at 165th Street, crossed the Calumet Ridge at Ridge Road and traveled along and crossed the Glenwood Ridge on Route 30. While traveling south on Route 41 to Dyer, the bus passed thru what was known as Katy's Marsh and Katy's Ditch and Hart's Ditch which was dug to help drain the Marsh. The bus stopped briefly at the Sauk Trail Monument on Route 30 about a mile west of Route 41 to observe the marker.

Warren Reeder and John Wilhelm commented on points of information and interest along the route south on 41, pointing out the problems with sink-holes, the lake Central High School with its TV antenna and station, and the location in St. John of the first Catholic church in Lake County. We crossed over the East-West Continental Divide, the point at which the waters flow either north to the Calumet system into Lake Michigan or south and west into the Illinois River and down to the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers. In the marsh area of Lake Dale Carlia, Mr. Hamacher made his fortune harvesting peat. We noted in passing the change of name from Cook to Cedar Lake, done recently as Cedar Lake annexed Cook to enlarge to qualify for help in financing a sewer system. The Kankakee River was used by thousands of Indians moving along the road on the north bank straight west to Momence. Many Indian artifacts are still being found in this area. Warren Reeder showed a stone ax which was found there very recently. The land in the Kankakee River Basin is very rich, often compared with that of Lancaster County, Pa. and the marsh was the source of much small animal life like mink, muskrat, otter, beaver, and birds.

At Lake Village the bus stopped and picked up Mrs. Dorothy Arbuckle, a resident of Lake Village for 39 years and a historian of the area around. She toured the area with us and told us of its history. Lake Village was founded in 1876. Located now just off the intersection of Route 10 and 41, it is an old but thriving small town. The area now which was once Beaver Lake bottom is rich farmland. The lake and marshland was drained in 1853 with big land fraud scandals occurring. We toured to Thayer, Shelby, and Schneider and saw some of the old hunting and fishing lodges, now being renovated as resorts. We stopped briefly at Mr. Strubble's Place, now a bait sales business on the river and Mr. Strubble told of the technique (steam power) used in dredging out the channel from a slough to a river 5 to 6 feet deep. Limuel Milk was primarily responsible for the dredging of the Kankakee. Shelby is a typical old river town, home of the White Advertising agency and maker of large signs sold all over the country (all of the Holiday Inn signs are made here.) At Schneider, the LaSalle Fish and Game area was given to the state of Indiana by Murray Baker to preserve some of the area. In the preserved Willow Slough things are now coming up that lay

Page 2 - Tour - June 11, 1972

idle and buried for years. Mr. Martin Carlough of Momence now owns much of the remaining slough lands and bottom lands of Beaver Lake. It is operated as E & M Ranch now. Route 41 runs through the middle of it. We visited the location of Conrad, a community that has completely disappeared but lives yet in the big legends of its founding by Jennie Conrad who refused to live in Lake Village only a few miles away so founded and ran her own community. Because of her iron rule, it never thrived in her lifetime and died after she died.

Lake Village now has a population of about 750 and its library has developed county service to Newton County. Mrs. Arbuckle was the librarian there for 28 years, retiring in 1960 when her husband died and she continued his oil business.

After a rest stop at a small restaurant at 10 and 41, the bus proceeded directly back to Hammond up Route 41, arriving about 5:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Marjorie Sohl*

Marjorie Sohl, Secretary



HAMMOND HISTORICAL SOCIETY TOUR  
SUNDAY, JUNE 11, 1972  
ATTENDANCE

NAME

Marjorie Sohl  
Ann Stevesand  
Alma Schreiber  
Mary Ruch  
Mildred Funk  
Mr & Mrs. Grammarese  
Lydia Owen  
Mrs. Florence Miller  
Gladys Hays  
Robert Hays  
Charlotte Kasten  
Mr. & Mrs. Emil Reichert  
Mrs. Jean Kuhnle  
Roland Clark  
Rosemary Clark  
Bob Niemitz  
Laura D. Brown  
Eleanor Sulcer  
Florence Cleveland  
Isabelle Webb  
Florence Bond  
Theresa Wessell

NAME

Mr. & Mrs. Harvey Swing  
Ruth Whitman  
Mrs. Pauline Kish  
Alice Brooks  
Dorothy Beemesdorfer  
Sid Bell  
Caroline Hohman  
Mrs. Esther Frisk  
Mrs. Maud Hosler  
David Tworkowski  
Norman Allen  
Louise Schroeter  
Mr. & Mrs. C. Ballard Harrison  
Mr. & Mrs. Virgil Petty  
Warren Reeder  
Virginia Kicho  
John Wilhelm  
Mrs. Conchetta Geis  
Sue Geis  
Louis N. Cook  
Mrs. Kantz  
Mr. & Mrs. Dolnics

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lots and raised its rental fee from \$125

to \$275

THE TIMES \*

Sunday, June 4, 1972

## Historians Plan South Lake Tour

HAMMOND — A tour of southern Lake county will be sponsored June 11 by the Hammond Historical Society.

A bus will pick up the group at 1:30 p.m. in front of the Board of Education building, Hohman Avenue and Waltham Street.

Reservations are being taken by Marjorie Sohl, secretary of the society, at the Main Library Building, 566 State St.



HISTORICAL SOCIETY TOUR TO KANKAKEE RIVER  
SUNDAY, JUNE 11, 1972

1. Marjorie Sohl, 5615 Sohl Avenue, Hammond
2. Ann Stevesand, 918 Summer Blvd. Hammond
3. Alma Schreiber
4. Mary Ruch, 516 Waltham Street, Hammond
5. Mildred Funk, 221 Conkey Street, Hammond 932-2675
6. Mr. Grammarese, 981-2651
7. Mrs. Grammarese.
8. Lida Owen, 440 Highland Street, Hammond
9. Mrs. Florence Miller
10. Mrs. Gladys Hays, 7931 Delmar Avenue, Hammond, 845-2157
11. Robert Hays
12. Charlotte Kasten, 231 Adelaide Place, Munster,
13. Mr. Emil Reichert, 1425 Wentworth St, Calumet City, To2-8422
14. Mrs. Emil Reichert.
15. Mrs. Jean Kuhnle, 324 Broadmoor Street, Munster
16. Roland Clark, 7519 Jackson Avenue, Hammond
17. Rosemary Clark
18. Bob Niemitz
19. Mrs. Laura D. Brown, 5216 Howard Avenue, Hammond 932-1130
20. Eleanor Sulcer, 3425 Garfield Avenue, Hammond, 838-7326
21. Florence Cleveland, 8948 Whiteoak Avenue, Munster, 923-0481
22. Isabelle Webb, 7010 Northcote Avenue, Hammond, 844-4113
23. Florence Bond, 1733 - 173rd Street, Hammond
24. Theresa Wessel, 7133 Magoun Avenue, Hammond
25. Mr. Harvey Swing, 230 - 173rd Street, Hammond
26. Mrs. Harvey Swing.
27. Ruth Whitman, 3003 - 97th Place, Highland
28. Mrs. Pauling Kish, 5727 Columbia Avenue, Hammond
29. Alice Brooks, 8148 Meadow Lane, Munster
30. Dorothy Biemesderfer
31. Sidona Bell, 6736 Magoun Avenue, Hammond
32. Caroline Hohman, 54 Ruth Street, Hammond
33. Mrs. Esther Frisk
34. Mrs. Maud Hosler, 6610 Madison Avenue, Hammond
35. David Tworkowski, 4110 Sheffield, Hammond, 932-5450
36. Norman Allen, 7307 Baring Parkway, Hammond 844-0763
37. Louise Schroeter, 40 Lawndale Street, Hammond,
38. C. Ballard Harrison, 16 Highland Street, Hammond, 931-2151
39. Mrs. C. B. Harrison
40. Mr. Virgil Petty, 1522 Parkway, Whiting, 659-2574
41. Mrs. Virgil Petty.
42. Warren Reeder, 30 Glendale Park, Hammond
43. Virginia Kicho, 5615 Sohl Avenue, Hammond
44. John Wilhelm, 6346 Hohman Avenue, Hammond
45. Mrs. Conchetta Geis, 7337 White Oak Avenue, Hammond
46. Sue Geis.
47. Louis N. Cook, 6944 Osborn Avenue, Hammond, 844-0781
48. Mrs. James Kantz, 533 Waltham Street, Hammond
49. Mr. Charles Dolnics, 284 Southmoor Road, Hammond
50. Mrs. Charles Dolnics.



## THE KANKAKEE RIVER REGION

In Dr. Powell Moore's book on the Calumet Region he has the following to say about the Kankakee River:

"The great Kankakee Marsh to the south (of Lake Michigan) handicapped the movement of people from that direction. This marsh was from three to five miles wide, and the depth of its water was from one to four feet deep for eight to nine months of each year. Few people ever saw the Kankakee River except in times of severe droughts or in winter when the marsh was frozen over. The region's first historian (Timothy Ball) wrote that "so far as any ordinary access to it from this county (Lake) is concerned it is like a fabulous river, or one the existence of which we take on trust". As a result the immigrants from the more southern parts of Indiana and Ohio chose the easier routes along the Michigan Road or up the Wabash River into the tier of counties east of Porter and Lake."

It did deter immigration from the south and consequently most of the early people hailed from the East.

In 1882 Goodspeed and Blanchard wrote, "...very wet, is known as the Kankakee Marsh, and is principally noted for hay, rich islands, water-fowl, batrachians, mosquitoes and the impracticality of pleasurable, or ever successful passage across its spongy surface."

When attempts were made to drain it in 1852 it became a basis for a lot of fraud. The Governor appointed a commission to drain it and bids were duly entered -- and contractors were paid. But the work was never done. It is estimated that about \$50,000 of money was stolen in this manner.

It was tough on surveyors. George Wilson commented that they "were so full of lamentations they would have put Jeremiah to shame; yet they were so faithful they would have been the equal of Job."

Surveyor Uriah Biggs wrote in 1835: "This township is generally unsuceptible of cultivations. The Kankakee river is rather a sluggish stream, its banks very low and lined on each side with a heavy growth of timber, mostly ash, some elm, maple, oak and birch, which grow very tall, and is undergrown with swamp alder and wild rose, etc., making an interminable forest which is covered with water during the season. The soil in this forest or swamp is loose yellow sand which renders it almost impracticable to approach the river, only when the swamp is frozen. In the marshes on the north part of the township there are large beds of rich iron ore". Practically all surveyors reported iron ore in these swamps in northwest Indiana.

A good summarized report states that the river was more like a pond or lake than a running stream, "inaccessible in almost every place. There are many places where the weight of a man will shake the marshes for acres together. In many places it was downright difficult to tell where the bed of the river was. Early travelers called this part of Indiana "the champaign country", reason unknown.

The state tried as early as 1853 to drain Beaver Lake, the 5-mile by 7-mile body of water that lay south of the river. Lemuel Milk of Kankakee, Illinois, owner of 10,000 acres hereabout, finally did the job but it took



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20 years. They finally lowered the rock ledge at Momence and did the job.

A boon to farmers, it was a disaster to wildlife. The draining took place in the nesting season and hundreds of thousands, possibly millions, of just-hatched ducks and geese died for lack of water. Fish were so thick in the mud of the drained lagoons that one could walk across without touching land. As old swamp rat Burt Burroughs lamented, "They murdered this land while they were at it, and made a good job of it."

Indians streamed through this area heavily, as evidenced by the artifacts found to this day. They stayed on islands; and when the marshes drained these "islands" were left dotting the landscape. It is to these remains that the arrowhead hunters repair when they are looking for their goodies. And which they find in profusion after the rains and ploughing of the spring.

On the islands also were the thieves and most especially the counterfeiters. So much so, in fact, that 2 of the islands were known as Little Bogus and Big Bogus. Later an ingenious gang of horse thieves located on Big Bogus.

These horse thieves were vindictive men. Walter Hess of Momence lost 53 horses over a 12 year war when he was known as part of a posse that broke up a local ring. His horses were poisoned, shot, hacked to death or stolen. Some of the thieves were quick-change artists: they dyed the color of the horse, would give them a "star" on the forehead. Oddly enough, this latter was done by tying a hot potato to the horses' head -- when the burn healed the hair came in white.

When the king of desperadoes was shot, one Shafer, the body was tossed into a grave in the Lake Village cemetery, sans coffin or gravemarker. The epitaph was pronounced by one of the burial party, who smacked his shovel down on the newly filled grave and remarked, "There you are, Mike Shafer, and may the devil make you dance a hornpipe on the hottest griddle there in Hell!"

Timothy Ball said there were 60, perhaps 70, miles of dredge ditches in the Kankakee marsh lands. The main ditch was Singleton ditch, the Ackerman ditch, Griesel and the Brown ditches.

We must mention the ebullient B. J. Gifford. Born in Kendall County in Illinois, he left home at 13 and made his own way. He became an attorney, served in the Civil War and then organized railroads in central Illinois.

He learned how to drain wet lands in Champaign county and bought 6,700 acres in the Pinkamink marsh and kept on buying until he had 33,000 acres in Jasper county and 1,000 in Lake County. He was responsible for 100 miles of ditches in these areas.

It paid off. Crops grew suddenly in this rich drained land. So he started a railroad to haul them to market. It started at Kersey, went north to Wolcott on the old Three-I railroad. His ambitions to carry it clear into Chicago failed but the right-of-way was purchased in Lake County and still was in evidence until a few years ago. Mr. Gifford left his mark by enriching land and other people. Who has not heard of the "Gifford Onion Route?"

What does "Kankakee" mean? The-a-ki-ki or Kiaki-ki means "wolf" in the Indian language. "Tey-yak-ki-ki may also mean "swampy ground" or "wonderful land". We have also heard it termed "beautiful river".



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THE TIMES

Friday, July 7, 1972



## *First 'Home'*

Hammond's first residents erected a house in 1837 on what's now American Steel Foundries property. Hammond Historical Society members Verlyn Mack (left) and Robert Madison hold a plaque to be placed near the site. C. W. McCullough, foundry works manager, reads about the Pierce family.





## Pictures Shown

The Hammond Historical Society has a display of early Hammond pictures and items in the balcony gallery of the Main Library, 566 State St. Chris Wantroba looks at some pictures showing early Hammond athletic organizations.

## Old Photos On Display

HAMMOND — The Hammond of old is being featured in a display of old photos and other historical items being held at the public library.

The display, sponsored by the Hammond Historical Society, consists of items such as aerial photos of downtown Hammond, pictures of historic homes, photos of the city's early citizens and photos of the city's past athletic teams.

The idea behind the display is to show people in the Calumet Region what type of material the Historical Society collects in the hope of getting people to donate items.

The exhibit will be at the library through September 7.



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Chicago Tribune, Thursday, June 29, 1972

## ***Steel Firm Gives Movie to Library***

"Heritage of Gary," a film documentary, has been contributed to the Lake County Public Library by the United States Steel Gary Works plant.

The feature-length color film was produced jointly by Gary Works, Mayor Richard G. Hatcher, and the City of Gary.

The film takes the viewer thru Gary's history, from the time of the Potawatami Indians to the present. It tells of the explorations of Father Marquette, arrival of the French and Canadian trappers, establishment of the first trading post, and the coming of the railroad.

Recreated in the documenta-

ry is the famous locomotive chase thru the Dunes in 1903, and the gunfight which took place as police and farmers caught the holdup men who were its passengers.

Photographs are used thru-out to portray the past, and the City of Gary is shown from its infancy to the present day.

"Heritage of Gary" is available to all adult library card holders from the Lake County Public Library and may be reserved at any of the 14 community libraries or the reference library. It also may be charged out by patrons in Crown Point and Lowell.